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**SELLECK AND PECK
GENEALOGY**



Wm. C. Sellick

SELLECK AND PECK GENEALOGY

COMPILED BY
WILLIAM EDWIN SELLECK



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PREFACE

The primary object in gathering what follows was simply to obtain a line of direct ancestors.

The labor and results reached far beyond any expectation. If any connections are interested in what has been compiled, there is some satisfaction in being able to state that in all the references nothing in the history of a Selleck has appeared that one need be ashamed of.

Printing the record was not thought of, but solicitation has induced its being done. The items collected have been reached under all kinds of circumstances, and succession of dates or proper arrangement of items has not been attempted, but simply added as reached, and the following is the result.

The selections made are some of the most important, but there are plenty more for any one interested if he wishes to make it complete, and the references will be an aid.

The Sellecks and collaterals had much to do with the ruling power during Colonial times in Fairfield County, Connecticut, and the Public Records of the Colony will show many items of interest not herein contained.

The records of the Selleck family seem to show that David was the ancestor of nearly all of that name in the United States.

Emigrants who came to this country previous to 1643 were entitled to be classed as "first settlers," at that date there being about 21,200 souls, or thereabouts (Caleb H. Snow's History of Boston, page 2). Taking the Selleck and Peck records, the writer shows nine direct ancestors who were "first settlers"; viz.: David Selleck and Susannah, his wife, 1633; Rich Law and Margaret, his wife, 1635; William Peck and Elizabeth, his wife, and Rev. Jeremiah, his son, 1637; and Captain James Sands and Thomas Kilborne in 1635.

The original spelling of the name as brought over by David Selleck has remained the same. At times, as is usual in a record of three hundred years, a change has taken place, but it was not lasting.

Nearly all that follows has been simply copied from printed books contained in various libraries. It is evident that no such record could be obtained from the same source if the line of ancestors were not of more than ordinary prominence.

He who is not proud of his ancestors either shows that he has no ancestors to be proud of — or else he is a degenerate son.— GROS-
VENOR.

Those who do not treasure up the memory of their ancestors do not deserve to be remembered by posterity.— SIR EDMUND BURKE.

Those who do not look upon themselves as a link connecting the past with the future do not perform their duty to the world.— DANIEL WEBSTER.

The Stamford-Norwalk family of Selleck is of ancient pedigree. By tradition it originated in Wales. The name is English-British, which is a dialect of the Celtic, Belgic, or Cambrian, formerly spoken throughout Cornwall.

The etymology of the proper name Selleck is "in open view," conspicuous, and is mentioned and found as early as A. D. 1086.

Along the seventeenth century are records of Sellecks in positions of influence. John Selyocke about that period "declined knighthood," and John Selioke, father and son, were Mayors of St. Albans, 1684-1700, while "Selleck on the Wye" is a beautiful village.

The River Wye, an affluent of the Severn, has its origin in two springs which issue from the southeast side of Plinhinmon, two miles from the headwaters of the Severn. It flows in a southeasterly direction through Montgomeryshire and Radnorshire in Wales, to Herefordshire, Monmouth, and Gloucester in England, thence South, entering the estuary of the Severn below Chepstow. The part dividing Monmouth and Gloucester is famed for its beauty, is one hundred thirty miles long

and seventy miles navigable. Selleck is in Herefordshire in the hundred of Wormelow, four and one-fourth miles northwest of Ross. Population 367.

Rev. C. M. Selleck's History of Norwalk, Conn.
Cyclopædia of Universal Knowledge, p. 1842.
Universal Cyclopædia, p. 529.
Nelson's Encyclopædia, p. 649.

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SELLECK GENEALOGY





THE ROOM IN WHICH THIS GENEALOGY WAS PREPARED

The portrait over desk was painted in 1845, and represents the writer at that date. Note the provision of a good mother, where she puts tucks in the pants, to provide for lengthening as the boy grows.

SELLECK GENEALOGY

LINE OF DESCENT

- (1) **David Selleck**
Died in Virginia, 1654.
- (2) **Susannah Kibby.**
- (3) **Jonathan Selleck**
(4) **Abigail Law**, daughter of Richard Law and Margaret (Kilborn) Law. B. 1637, d. Dec. 20, 1711. Married May 11, 1663.
- (5) **Jonathan Selleck**
(6) **Abigail Gold**, daughter of Major Nathan Gold. Married Jan. 5, 1685.
- (7) **Nathan Selleck**
(8) **Sarah Sands.** Married at Huntington, Long Island, Jan. 1, 1713.
- David, b. Oct. 11, 1638, d. in Barbados, 1663.
- (3) **Jonathan**, b. March 20, 1641, d. Jan. 10, 1713.
John, b. Feb. 21, 1643.
Nathaniel, b. July 18, 1645.
Joanna, b. Dec. 11, 1649.
Elizabeth, b. Feb. 1, 1651.
Susannah, died Sept. 10, 1653.
- (5) **Jonathan**, b. July 11, 1664, d. June 11, 1710.
David, b. Jan. 27, 1666. } Died
John, } Young.
- (7) **Nathan**, b. Sept. 12, 1686, d. Jan. 15, 1772.
Abigail, b. April 3, 1688.
Jonathan, Unmarried.
Theophila, b. Feb. 11, 1694 (Mrs. Samuel Pennoyer).
John Gold, Unmarried.
Abigail, b. Feb. 15, 1707 (Mrs. Ebenezer Silliman).
- (9) **Sands**, b. April, 1714, d. 1772.
Silas, b. June, 1715.
Mary, b. Oct. 1, 1717.
Jonathan, b. Oct. 1, 1720.
Sarah, b. Aug. 12, 1723.
Nathan, b. Sept. 15, 1726.
Samuel, b. Jan. 10, 1728, d. Aug. 3 1730.
Gold John, b. Jan. 10, 1730.
Silvanus, b. Sept. 1, 1734.

"As Nathan (7) was the only married son of Jonathan (5) it follows that the said Nathan became the ancestor of those of the Selleck name who descended from Major Jonathan Selleck."—Rev. Chas. Selleck's History of Norwalk.

SELLECK GENEALOGY

- (9) **Sands Selleck**
 (10) **Mary Raymond.** B. June 17, 1723, d. 1812. Married Aug. 10, 1742.
- (11) **Simeon, b. Aug. 14, 1743, d. in infancy.**
 (11) **Simeon, b. Sept. 18, 1744.**
 Jesse, b. Jan. 19, 1746.
 Sands, b. May 19, 1751.
 Raymond, b. June 26, 1752.
 Samuel, b. July 17, 1755.
 Anna, b. Feb. 28, 1759 (Mrs. Benjamin Belden.)
 Henry, died young.
 Stephen, died young.
- (11) **Simeon Selleck**
 (12) **Mary Belden.**
 Married Feb. 28, 1771.
- (13) **Betsy.**
 Polly.
 (13) **Benjamin.**
 Annie.
- (13) **Benjamin Selleck**
 (14) **Deborah Peck.** B. Sept. 29, 1789, d. Nov. 12, 1877. Married Feb. 28, 1811.
- (15) **Sands Edwin, b. March 18, 1812, d. Aug. 21, 1865.**
 Stephen Peck, b. Jan. 24, 1814, d. Jan. 25, 1870.
- (15) **Sands Edwin Selleck**
 (16) **Eliza Ayres.** B. Berlin, Md., March 24, 1811, d. St. Louis, Nov. 7, 1858. Married in New York City, Jan. 8, 1839.
- (17) **William Edwin, b. Tremont, Tazewell Co., Ill., Feb. 18, 1841.**
- (17) **William Edwin Selleck**
 (18) **Flora Thorne.** Married Feb. 14, 1866.
- (19) **June Montross, b. St. Louis, Mo., May 5, 1867.**
- (19) **June Montross Selleck.**
 (20) **Lizzie Patterson.** B. Barreville, Ill., Dec. 17, 1870. Married in St. Louis, March 17, 1891.
- (21) **William Dayton, b. in Chicago, Dec. 13, 1892.**
 Dorothy Marie, b. in Chicago, Oct. 23, 1894, d. Aug. 7, 1895.

Rev. Charles M. Selleck's History of Norwalk, Conn.
 T. P. Hughes' Am. Ancestry, Vol. ii, p. 109.
 Savage Genealogy Dictionary, Vol. iv, p. 50.
 Huntington's History of Stamford, Conn., p. 165.

DAVID SELLECK

His name appears in roll of early settlers of New England in 1640. He arrived in Dorchester, Mass., July, 1633. He was made a freeman May 18, 1642. He moved from Dorchester to Boston in 1641. The records of the First Church at Dorchester, page 5, 1636 to 1734, show him as a signer to the Articles of Faith Sept. 20, 1640. He was received in the First Church of Boston from Dorchester Church Jan. 23, 1644. Births and baptismal records of his children are found in the Boston church. He died in Virginia in October, 1654.

"His inventory of December 6, 1654, showed fair estate in sum, yet very little above his debts."

His business was "soap boiler." He probably came from Bristol, England. The manufacture of soap in Bristol was a very important business. In 1851 Book of New England Historical and Genealogical Register, page 400, will be found where Christopher Gibson "sope boyler" moved to Boston, probably in 1646, as in that year he bought of David Selleck "half of all belonging to his trade."

Bee It knowne by theise presents y^t I David Sellick of Boston Soape boyler doe Absolutely sell & make over vnto Christopher gipson of Dorchester Chanler halfe of all my vtensells & materials y^t belongs vnto my trade of soape boyleing viz., halfe my furnace soape howse salte howse & seller under y^e said Soape howse with twelve hogsheads of Oyles halfe my boate, greate & littell Beame, my fatts Ladell & truell wth y^e Land now is vsed about y^e said trade from y^e lower pales y^t parts my garden & y^e sope yarde to y^e furthest extent of my Lande adoiyneing to M^r Coles Land & on y^e east side bownded wth M^r Jeames ollivers land & on y^e west side side bownd with y^e Land of Isack groases, halfe wth lande & with halfe of y^e Aforementioned perticulers I y^e said David Sellich doe sell to him & to his wife If shee survive him for as longe as shee lives a Widdow unto wth tyme wee are to be in partnership as appeers by Artickls of Agreem^t beareing date ye 14th. 6. 1646, as more fully Appeare & If then y^e said widow shall happen to marry & soe their partnership shall be at an end, and y^e said

david sellich shall pay vnto y^e said widow as much as her part of y^e vtensells & materialls shall then be worth, as they shall be Apprysed by two indiferent men [112] Men. / In Witness whereof I have heere-vnto set my hand And seale y^e 10 of the 7 : 1646. David Sellich wth Seale.

Memorandum before the sealing & delivery of theise presents y^e said David Sellich doe sell halfe of y^e twenty foote way y^t is betweene m^r hills warehouse & m^r Coles howse, y^e is to say lyberty for passage According as y^e said David Sellecke hath It from m^r. Vatt. Hill, Testor, Edwi Ting, Iohn Lake. Endorced

Y^e Land and howses being left out in y^e sale of y^e said Christopher gipson, wife bach againe to mee y^e said David Sellich. when shee shall happen to marry, It is intended the howses & land to be part of y^e vtensels & matterialls within mentioned. /

David Sellich Christoph^r Gipson Edward Tynge testyfyeth y^t his name on the other side is of his owne wrighting and y^t he was a witness vnto y^e Covenant there writen. / taken vpon oath this 15^o:12^o: 1654 before mee Richrd. Bellingham Gov^r:

Entred and Recorded this 15th february 1654.

p. Edw. Rawson Recorder.

This document from a book in the Registry of Deeds office in the Court-house entitled "Suffolk Deeds Liber 11." page 111, printed from the original book which is in Edward Rawson, Recorder's, own hand writing. This work printed in 1883 on account of the original becoming worn, mutilated and fast becoming illegible.

The almost uniform spelling of David's name in his history as given, the fac simile of his signature, and the various ways in which his name appears in the foregoing agreement, seems to prove that David was not the author of the document.

The first impression at the present time of a soap boiler would hardly inspire one very much, but it was a calling of high class, and required what was then considered quite a large capital, and more than ordinary business ability to conduct it.

While his business was connected with soap, it is generally known in Boston and Dorchester that he gave more attention to other matters than boiling soap. Was interested more or less in coast trading. Was either part or sole owner of a vessel that was used in coast trading, and, in fact, was an all-around speculator, ready for any kind of trade. Was quite a prominent man, quite a leader, and far above the general run of early settlers.

According to James H. Stark, Vice-President of the Dorchester Historical Society, the first emigration from England to Dorchester sailed from the Isle of Wight on April 8, 1630, on the ship *Mary and John*.

What was known as the Second Emigration sailed from Weymouth, England, and arrived in Dorchester in July, 1633.

In the History of Dorchester, page 100, will be found a complete list of the passengers — eighty-five in all — comprising the Second Emigration, with David Selleck as one of the number.

In John Winthrop's (First Governor of Massachusetts) Journal, page 51, he mentions the arrival of this ship July 24, 1633, and states a ship arrived from Weymouth with about eighty passengers and twelve kine, which set down at Dorchester. They were twelve weeks coming, being forced into the western islands by a leak, where they stayed three weeks, and were very courteously used by the Portuguese, but the extremity of the heat there and the continued rain brought sickness upon them. Above twenty died of pestilent fever.

There is a question whether David Selleck arrived in Dorchester in 1633 or 1635. The list mentioned above is only claimed as "regarded as a near approach to a correct list of the Second Emigration."

Richard Mather unquestionably came in 1635, and his name appears in the 1633 list. His almost daily diary of his trip across on the ship "*James*" mentions names of fellow-passengers in 1635 that appear in the 1633 list, showing conclusively that the 1633 list is only partially correct. But as long as David Selleck's name appears in the 1633 list of the Second Emigration, and is the only record found of his arrival, it seems proper to state that he arrived at that date.

Relating to his real estate possessions.

The Second Report of Record Commissioners, pages 4 and 39. Book of Possessions show.

30. 1. 1646 David Selleck granted to Mr. Thos. Leverit one acre of ground, be it more or less, bounded Rich. Parker and Edward Hutch-

inson west. Mrs. Stoughton south, Thos. Levit west which lyeth in the Newfield as appears by a deed dated 20 (12) 1645.

25. (1) 1646. David Selleck of Boston granted unto Robert Nannery his house and garden, thereunto belonging with ten foote broad for a way, leading to said garden (formerly purchased of Christopher Lawson) also ten foote of the wharf in breadth from John Hills and in length from the Dock to his house, being bounded with John Hills, and the street westerly: the marsh northerly: the marsh and Nathaniel Long easterly, and the cove southerly: as appers by a deed of sale dated 25. (1) 1646. Also David Selleck granted "sixe foote" more of the wharf next adjoining, into the former ten foote, and this by deed of sale, with warranty against all men, and provision that he should have room to pass upon the wharf, and land goods, as the rest of the neighbors doe. Dated 29 (5) 1646.

Page 21 David Selleck's possessions within the limits of Boston: One House and garden bounded with James Oliver on the east. Valentine Hill on the North: Mr. Pierce on the West and the street on the South.

20. (11) 1645 One house purchased of Christopher Lawson which formerly was Henry Symons, and a garden bounded with the street or highway westward, the common marsh towards the north and east, and John Hills and Nathaniel Long towards the South: together with a lane of ten foote leading to the said garden: also the wharf or land lyeing afore the said house, in breadth forty-two foote and length fifty six foote according to the Grant of the General Court.

14. (7) 1647 Edward Wells granted unto David Selleck his home and garden in Boston bounded with Sampson shore northeast: the cove southeast: John Milton Southwest and John Hills garden northwest.

21. 10. 1639 "m^d That the Daye above written David Sellick sold unto Mr. Thomas makepeace 16 acres of Land Lyeing and bounded according to a deed bearing date with these presents."

On page 792 of Samuel G. Drake's American History and Antiquities of Boston from its settlement in 1630 to the year 1770 will be found a description of David Selleck's Home Lot, a verbatim copy of which is herewith given.

SELICK DAVID — House and garden Jas. Oliver E. Val. Hill N. Mr. Pierce W. the St. S — House purch'd of Christ. Lawson, formerly Henry Symonds and a garden the St. W'd, the common marsh tor'd the N. E., John Hill and Nthl. Long tor'ds the S. together with a lane of 10 ft. leading to s'd garden, also the wharf or lane lying about s'd. house 42 ft. wide and 56 ft. long by grant of Gen. Court. This by deed 20 (11) 1645 ackn. before Mr. Hibbens same day Edw'd. Wells gr. David S. his house and garden Samson Shore N. E. the Cove S. E., John Milom S. W. John Hills garden N. W. by deed 11 (7) 1647

Ackn'g before Winthrop Gov'r 14 (7) 1647

This Home Lot, was as near as can be determined, about where 110 State Street is now. In those days this was called King street. While it had no record then, it is not uninteresting to know that it was located within a stone's throw of the Old State House, built in 1713, the site of the Boston Massacre—"Here was shed the first blood of the American Revolution"—and Faneuil Hall, "The Cradle of Liberty."

William Brenton, Captain Thomas Clark and Deacon John Winwall were appointed administrators of the estate of David Selleck.

Probably to prove the death of David Selleck so his estate could be settled, will be found on page 58 of 1855, New England Hist. and Geneal. Register the following:

"Wee whose names are here vnderwritten doe testify that vpon our Arival in Virginia on the 19th day of Oct 54 David Dale of Akla-macke did affirm that David Sellicke dyed in Virginia a fortnight or three weeks before we came in: vpon that wee went up to Mussawattocks where Mrs Sellicke did affirm the same"

3. 5. 58
Sworn in Court 31 July 1658.

Phillip Long
Benjamin Negus.
Edw. Rawson Recorder

Appearances indicate that David Selleck returned to England in 1653, and at that time was employed by the Commissioners of England to transport men and women to the American Colonies, where they became bonded servants. He died in Virginia in 1654, whither he may have gone to transact the business of the Commissioners.

The Dorchester Historical Society states: "It is a matter of history that the first public school where the people were taxed for its maintenance, and where it was free for all children of the town, was established in Dorchester."

"In that sacred church building, built of the logs they felled, was held the first free public school in America, and in it was held the first town meeting on this continent."

Good Old Dorchester, by William Dana Orcut, page 288, states: "The history of the schools of Dorchester has special interest, owing to the fact that the town claims precedence in

the establishment of the first public school supported by a direct tax."

The first schoolmaster of Dorchester was Rev. Thomas Waterhouse. He was a graduate of Cambridge University, England. He taught for a short time in the first school house built by the town.

On pages 422 and 423 of History of Dorchester, also Dorchester Town Records, page 104, appears the full text of the agreement signed by seventy-five of the inhabitants of Dorchester for a direct tax to support the first public school that was established in the Western World. David Selleck's signature appears in the petition. Tracing of which is here given.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David Selleck". The signature is written in dark ink on a light background.

Dated Dec. 12, 1641.

It ought to be a source of pleasure to any descendant of David Selleck to know that his forbear was one of the founders of the present system of our public schools.

The peculiar wording and spelling of the petition will warrant the time spent in examining the copy of the original, and some of the references have a fac-simile of all the signatures to the petition.

In the Statutes at Large, being a collection of all the laws of Virginia, by William Waller Hennig, Vol. i, p. 515, March, 1858-59, mention is made of the arrival of five ships, all from Bristol, England. One of the number, "Recovery," was commanded by Rich Sellacke.

In the great fire of Boston, 1652-53, David lost his "Howse and goods."

June A. Wentz of Boston, a warm friend of the writer since 1863, has aided materially in collecting items relating to David Selleck.

Pioneers of Massachusetts, by Charles Henry Pope, p. 407.

Fourth Report Boston Record Commission, 1880, pp. 43 and 106, Dorchester.



At a point in Dorchester near Edw. Everett Square can be seen a stone monument, bearing a bronze tablet, as shown herewith, intended to mark the spot where the first public school of America was held.

Records.

Book, 1890, p. 194, New England Historical and Genealogical Register.

Book, 1889, p. 426, New England Historical and Genealogical Register.

Book, 1855, p. 141, New England Historical and Genealogical Register.

(2) SUSANNAH (KIBBY) SELLECK

WIFE OF (1) DAVID SELLECK

Little direct history is found of Susannah; she was the daughter of Henry Kibby, a freeman in the 1642 list, and his wife Rachel. Rachel died July 16, 1657, and Henry did not wait long, but married Grizel at Dorchester, Aug. 8, 1657. Henry's estate was administered by his widow, Aug. 15, 1661.

John Kibby, brother of Henry, died and left a will that was administered by his widow in London, May 18, 1642. Date of will, June 21, 1641. His description is given St. Bennet Fyncke, citizen and Vintner of London. The will states:

I give and bequeath unto my brother Henry Kibby now living in New England ten pounds of lawful money of England, to be paid unto him within six months after my decease: In case he shall not be then living, I do then give and bequeath his said legacy of ten pounds unto his daughter Susan Sellick if she shall then be living.

A deposition communicated by William S. Appleton of Boston reads:

The testimony of Phillip Long aged forty yeares or there abouts, in and concerning the administratrixship of mrs. Susanna Zillick, sayeth that about the moneth of (November) 1654 I the s^d Phillip being at () heareing of mr. David Zillicks death. I went (to the widow) to demand my debt of her: she made me answer that she had not yet administered and therefore could not pay me. But she s^d she was to administer the next court following. I was not wht. her after wards: But after court was past to my knowledg she paid sev^rall debts and further sayeth not. Sworn before me this 15 of october 1658.

Edward Rawson Commissioner.

She was admitted to the First Church of Boston, Jan. 25, 1643. In the "Proceedings of Mass. Hist. Society," 2d series, Vol. 3, page 7, there is some evidence, but not conclusive, that Susan-

nah married Robert Tilman, and is criticised for doing so, so soon after David's death.

Pioneers of Massachusetts, by Charles Henry Pope, page 407.
 New England Historical and Genealogical Register.
 1856 Book, Page 360.
 1862 Book, Page 49.
 1889 Book, Page 426.
 1890 Book, Page 194.

DAVID SELLECK, JR.

BRIDGETOWN, BARBADOES, B. W. I.,
 March 30, 1912.

The writer spent the day here, and endeavored to learn something about David Selleck, who died here in 1663.

The records of deaths are very complete, and extend several years previous to 1663. They are supposed to cover the deaths of the whole island, and have been compiled in late years.

Could find no record of the death of David, but was informed that records of several parishes had been lost or destroyed by some of the hurricanes that have visited the island.

(3) JONATHAN SELLECK

BORN MARCH 20, 1641; DIED JANUARY 10, 1713

Married Abigail Law, daughter of Rich Law, May 11, 1663. His brother John married Sarah Law, sister of Abigail. Jonathan and John moved to Stamford, Conn., about 1660. Deputy from Stamford 1670, and at other times until 1708. Assistant 1695 to 1701. Captain Stamford Train Band 1675. Captain of Stamford troops in Great Swamp Fight. Major in 1696. Judge, Fairfield Co., 1698.

In a treaty with the Indians in 1667, Jonathan was one of the representatives of Stamford to sign the treaty — a renewal of former ones.

December, 1667, the town granted Jonathan a piece of land on the west side of the landing-place as a reward for his meritorious services while engaged against the common enemy.

Jonathan was one of a Committee to see that the inhabitants be seated in the meeting house by the following rule: "viz.: dignity, agge and estate."

A vote was passed July 8, 1702, by the members of the church at Stamford to "build a new meeting-house next fall, fifty feet square, of customary height, where the pound stands." Major Jonathan Selleck and eight others were appointed a building committee, with instructions to get the shingles at home and have them cedar. It would seem that this house of worship, after built, had no bell, as provision was made in 1707 for beating the drum in the "ferrate."

To show the pecuniary standing of the citizens of Stamford, a list was published in 1701, and Major Selleck was credited with £91, 15, 0.

The New York Colonial records show under date of New York, Nov. 28, 1700, that the Earl of Bellomont wrote to the English Lords of Trade — his masters — as follows:

There is a town called Stamford in the Conn. Colony, on the border of this province where one Major Selleck lives, who has a Warehouse close to the sea that runs between the main land and Nassau, (Long Island). That man does us great mischief with his Warehouse, for he receives abundance of goods from our vessels, and the merchants afterwards take their opportunity of running them into this town. Maj Selleck received at least £10,000 worth of treasure and East India goods brought by one Clarke of this town from Kids sloop and lodged with Selleck.

Undoubtedly Capt. Kidd the pirate.

Jonathan held numerous town offices, was member of legislature repeatedly, and State Senator 1695 to 1701.

May 11. 1665 Jonathan Selleck is appointed for Ordinary Keeper at Stamford.

May 11. 1671. This Court grants to Lieut. Jonathan Selleck (and three others) liberty to purchase of the Indians, such land as they shall judge convenient within the bounds of the colony to be disposed

of by the General Court: when disposed of the forenamed Gentlemen shall have rational satisfaction for their disbursements.

Jan 1. 1763 Jonathan Selleck (with two others) present their report as a committee, settling the bounds and dividing lines between the several townships, lying in the county of Fayerfield — westward — viz: Norwalke, Stamford, Greenwich and Rye.

Oct 8. 1674 This Court appoints Lieut. Jonathan Selleck (and three others) forthwith to run the line between this Colony and the Colony of New York. from Monmoronock River to Hudson River.

July 7, 1675. Jonathan Selleck being chosen Capt. of the Train Band is by this Court confirmed accordingly.

Jan. 17. 1675. The Council appointed Jonathan Selleck Capt of the Fayrefield Company.

July 24. 1675 There appearing no present opportunity to send to England from Boston, and there being a ship now bound from New York, it was ordered that letters and important documents be sent by the way of New York and Capt Jonathan Selleck is appointed by the Council to convey them to New York and deliver them unto the master of the ship, according to the directions given him in the letter from the Council.

Aug. 7, 1673. (The General Courts letter to the Commander of the Dutch Fleet.)

. . . Yet we understand you content not yourselves with what you have already taken, but demand submission of the people — his Majestys subjects — and have seized a vessel of Mr. Sellecks — one of the people: we have therefore sent Mr. James Richards and Mr Wm Rosewell to know your further intentions, and we must let you know that we and our confederates, the United Colonies of New England are by Royal Sovereign, Charles the Second, made keepers of his subjects, and do hope to acquit ourselves in that trust, through the assistance of Almighty God, for the preservation of his Majestys Colonies, in New England.

Oct 8 1696 Maj Jonathan Selleck (and two others) appointed to revise the law made in May last concerning the valuation of money and to consider what additions or amendments are requisite for the perfecting the said law.

Jan 22. 1698 At this Court the Hon Maj Genl Fitz John Winthrop Maj Jonathan Selleck and Rev. Mr. Gurdon Saltonstall are desired upon notice of the arrival of his excellency the Earl of Bellomont to travel to New York in the name of the Governor Council and Representatives of this Colony to congratulate the happy arrival of his Excellency, and if either of the said gentlemen should through sickness or otherwise be incapacitated for that service, then the worshipful Capt Nathan Gold is desired to accompany the other two gentlemen, and to join with them therein.

May 9. 1700. Upon consideration that the Hon Maj Jonathan Selleck is ancient and his living remote from Fairfield the County town and he not able to attend the County Courts there: for the ease of said Maj Selleck and the convenience of said County, this Assembly orders that Capt Nathan Gold Esq. be appointed and Commissioned Judge of the said County

In the Public Records of the Colony of Connecticut, Jonathan Selleck's name appears over seventy times in connection with public documents, relating to the laws and government of the Colony.

Lord Cornbury of the New York Colony wrote, June 30, 1703, to his masters, the Lords of Trade, in England:

. . . Another very great inconvenience we labor under is with respect to our Soldiers, Seamen and Servants, both white and black. If a soldier of the garrison or a seaman from any of the Queens ships of war, has a mind to desert, it is but going to Connecticut and he is safe. If an officer is sent after a deserter and finds him there, the soldier is protected and the officer affronted and abused, and of this are several instances to be given, and particularly when Capt Matthews was sent after two deserters, which he found at Stamford in a house — and sending for Maj Selleck for his assistance to secure these two men, he being a Justice of the Peace in that County, the Maj came to the house and kept Matthews in a room while the soldiers made their escape.

The will of Jonathan Selleck reads

First and principally I consign my soul into the hands of Almighty God — Hoping through the merits of my Saviour Jesus Christ to have full and free pardon and forgiveness of all sins and to inherit everlasting life — My body I commit to the earth to be decently buried at the discession of my executors.

Bequests are made to his grandchildren, Jonathan, John Gold, Theophlia, Abigail. His library was given to Rev. John Davenport, Pastor of the Church of Christ in Stamford, including all the works in Latin, Greek and Hebrew.

The remainder of his estate was bequeathed to his grandson Nathan, who was created executor. Executed Dec. 21, 1712, and sealed with the Selleck signet ring described hereafter.

Jonathan Selleck



Fairfield, Conn., April 9, 1912.

The writer had access this day to the original will of Jonathan Selleck. It was undoubtedly in his own handwriting, and the copy is verbatim. It is interesting to note the evidence of an education of the present day, as compared with most of the references given.

His signature had a seal of red sealing wax. At first could discover no signs of any imprint on the seal. I had a duplicate of the signet ring on my finger, and asked a young lady, whose eye sight was better than mine, to look carefully to find any imprint on the wax similar to the engraved coat of arms on the ring. After some time she said "I see it," and after a further examination with the aid of a magnifying glass I was also able to see parts of the design. Evidently the seal was applied to the wax when the latter was nearly cold.

There is no doubt but what this instrument was sealed with the signet ring now in my possession, a description and history of which appears later.

This is to certify that I assisted Mr. W. E. Selleck on April 9th, 1912, while he was examining the will of Jonathan Selleck in the town hall of Fairfield, Conn.

He had a ring on his finger, engraved with a coat of arms. He called my attention to the ring and asked me to look carefully, if I could discover any imprint on the wax that was used as a seal to the signature.

It was some little time before I discovered the impression, but finally found several lines and marks that convinced me that the will had been sealed with a seal the same as appeared on the ring Mr. Selleck had on his finger.

Fairfield, Conn., Apr. 16th, 1912. (Signed) Lula H. Mosher.

Rev. E. B. Huntington's A. M. History of Stamford, pp. 99, 111, 126, 134, 175, 176, 192.

Schenck's History of Fairfield Co., p. 370.

Savage Genealogical Dictionary, p. 50.

Society of Colonial Wars, District of Columbia, 1897, p. 12.

Public Records of the Colony of Connecticut, Vol. ii, pp. 14, 151, 202, 242, 261, 344, 400.

Public Records of the Colony of Connecticut, Vol. ii, p. 561, Vol. iv, pp. 180, 238, 324.

Colonial History of the State of New York, Vol. iv, p. 1059.

JOHN SELLECK

BROTHER OF JONATHAN (3)

Married Sarah Law, daughter of Rich Law. He came from Dorchester to Stamford, Conn., about 1660.

He became a wealthy ship-owner and captain, and was extensively known in early days. He was taken prisoner by the French (on one of his ocean trips) in May, 1689, but his estate was not settled until 1708.

Rev. C. M. Selleck's History of Norwalk, p. 437.

(5) JONATHAN SELLECK

BORN JULY 11, 1664; DIED JUNE 11, 1710

June 15, 1687 John Wheeler having petitioned this court that the Court would grant him relief in a case depending between Mr. Jonathan Selleck Jr. and himself, wherein he conceiveth he is injured by countenance of law, by the receiving of an execution upon his estates &c The Court having considered the case do order that the land re-mayne in said Sellecks hands.

Oct 9 1700 Ordered and enacted that there shall be and is hereby appointed one person in each County within this Colony to be a Public Surveyor, who shall be sufficiently skilled in the surveyors Art, and at his own charge furnisht with instruments who shall take the Surveyors oath in that case provided, for the County of Fairfield-
Capt Jonathan Selleck Jr

Oct 12. 1699 Capt Jonathan Selleck of Stamford was by this Assembly chosen to be Justice in the County of Fairfield.

Dec 13. 1704 Capt Jonathan Selleck (and others) appointed Auditors of the Colony Accounts with the Treasurer.

In the Public Records of the Colony of Connecticut, Jonathan Selleck's name appears over twenty-five times in connection with the laws and government of the Colony.

Oct 1700. In case the government of Newyorke shall desire the line between their Province and this Colony to be renewed by persons appointed by both Governments, this assembly doth appoint and empower Capt Jonathan Selleck, Lieut Samuel Peck (and one other) to join with those appointed by the governmt of Newyorke in runnign said line and erecting bound marks.

The Samuel Peck referred to is No. 5 in direct ancestors of the Peck Ancestry given hereafter. The Sellecks and Pecks were related in the business affairs of the Colony in 1700 and by marriage 111 years later when Benjamin Selleck married Deborah Peck.

His son John was the first Fairfield county graduate of Harvard College.

Volumes 1 and 2, page 208, of Stamford Records states:

Dec 10, 1695. Jonathan Selleck Jr his mark, a cross on ye near ear and a () on the under side of ye same ear — Ear mark for cattle.



THE RICHARD LAW FAMILY

Rich Law

B. about 1610, d. March 12, 1686.
Margaret Kilborn. Married in 1636, d. 1683.

Jonathan, b. 1636, d. 1711.
(4) Abigail, b. 1637.
Sarah, b. 1639.

Jonathan Law

Sarah Clark. Married Jan. 1, 1669.

Jonathan, b. 1674, d. 1750. Only son of Jonathan and Sarah.

Jonathan Law

Colonial Governor. Had five wives.

Richard Law, b. March 17, 1733, d. Jan. 26, 1806.

Richard Law

Ann Prentis.

John,	Lyman,
Rich,	Mary,
Jonathan,	Christopher,
Benjamin,	Prentis,
Ann,	William.

Public Records of the Colony of Connecticut, 1717 to 1725 book, p. 79.

Public Records of the State of Connecticut, Vol. ii, p. 79. Vol. iii, p. 237. Vol. iv, pp. 235, 300, 325, 506. Vol. ix, p. 272.

T. P. Hughes' American Ancestry, p. 196.

RICHARD LAW, SR.

FATHER OF ABIGAIL SELLECK (4)

He was King's Attorney from England to America, settled in Stamford, Conn., about 1640, where he died. Married Margaret Kilborn, early emigrants to Boston. Came to this country in 1635. Lived in Wethersfield before moving to Stamford.

By local historians of Stamford he is styled "the first gentleman of the Colony."

He was scribe of the Colony, and because of his legal lore the "Councillor and Adviser of the Community." His home was one of the most honored of the Colony, and the family furnished names that gave a lustre to the state whose highest civil and judicial seats its members filled.

Was perhaps the first civilian among the Stamford Settlers; the acknowledged legal adviser of the community for more than a quarter of a century. His scholarly and clerical abilities gave him a great advantage among the settlers. From the first he seemed to have been the scribe of the Colony. His pen was equally ready for the records of the town, the church, and the courts. He was the only town clerk appointed for about twenty-four years. He was oftener a deputy in the General Court at New Haven than any of the settlers, and apparently more in demand when there. As constable he was noted for a fearless and tireless efficiency. He had a misunderstanding with John Mead; the latter claimed as he desired his services as constable and did not do as he (Mead) wanted that he (Law) neglected his duty and pressed an action in court. It resulted in Mead being sentenced to make a full acknowledgment to the satisfaction of the church and Mr. Law; to pay Mr. Law £10 for his expenses in the trial; to pay £10 more for disturbing the jurisdiction and then he and his brother, or some other acceptable man, be bound over for his good behavior. After the trial Mr. Mead made the fullest confession and retraction.

A paper dated Feb. 15, 1680, was recorded in 1686, which speaks of the misunderstanding under which he had given his son certain land. It seems the son moved from Stamford to Milford against his wishes. Still adhering to the former grant to his son, he insisted on dividing the lands which had come into his hands since the former gift, to his two daughters, the two Mrs. Sellecks (Abigail and Sarah), so they may each have as much as he, for which he says, "The word of God is clear, and

good reason for it, and why any Christian man that loveth righteousness and equity should be against this. I see not."

Rich Law

Huntington's History of Stamford, p. 276.

Rev. Chas. Selleck's History of Norwalk, Conn., p. 437.

MARGARET KILBORNE

MOTHER OF (4) ABIGAIL LAW SELLECK

Born in Wood Ditton, County of Cambridge, England, 1607. Came to New England with her parents, on board the "Increase" in 1635. Soon after her arrival, married Richard Law.

Thomas, the common ancestor of all the Kilborne's (spelled variously) on the Western Continent, was born in the parish of Wood Ditton, County of Cambridge, England, A. D. 1578. Married Frances and had eight children — Margaret, Thomas, Elizabeth, George, Mary, Lydia, Frances, and John.

The family settled in Wethersfield, Conn., where Thomas, Sr., died previous to 1639 at which date lands are recorded to "Frances Kilborne, widow."

Extracts from the Parish Register of Wood Ditton:

1578 The viij daye of Maye was baptized Thomas Kilborne the sonne of John Kilborne

1591 John Kilborne was buried the xxx daye of October.

From these records it is inferred that John was the father of Thomas.

The history of the Kilborne family in England previous to the arrival of Thomas in this country is very interesting and complete as found in references mentioned below.

Hotten's List of Emigrants, p. 66.

History of the Kilborne Family, by Payne Kenyon Kilborne, A. M., pp. 39-49.

JONATHAN LAW

ONLY SON OF JONATHAN LAW AND SARAH CLARK, DAUGHTER
OF ENSIGN GEORGE CLARK

Was Colonial Governor of Connecticut, 1741-50. Was born at Milford, Conn., Aug. 6, 1672.

Graduated at Harvard in 1695. In 1710 he was made a Judge of the New Haven County Court. At the annual election in 1717 he was made an Assistant to the Governor, that office being one of great importance, and was *ex officio* a legislator. He resigned in 1725 to become Lieutenant-Governor, and in the same year was appointed by the Assembly Chief Justice of the Superior Court. Both offices were held by him until he took the Governor's chair.

Governor Law has been described as a man of high talents and accomplishments, both natural and acquired; of a mild, placid temper; amiable in all relations of domestic life. He was married five times. One of his wives was grand-daughter of Governor Benedict Arnold of Newport, R. I. Another was aunt of Lyman Hall of Georgia, Signer of the Declaration of Independence. He left a number of children, at least seven being sons. Died at Milford, Nov. 6, 1750.

Silk culture was introduced in Connecticut about 1732, with a view to introduce some product more profitable than the cereals which were the staples. In 1747, Governor Law wore the first coat and stockings made of New England silk.

Early in the eighteenth century a wonderful attention to religion had been excited in various parts of Connecticut; seemed to have been a general revival. Some of the "New Lights," as they were called, boldly proclaimed their intimate communion with the Almighty. Some of the clergy forsook their own charges to labor with the "New Lights." In some counties lay-preachers sprang up who pretended to divine impulses and inward impressions, and professed a supernatural power of discerning between those that were converted and those that were not.

Governor Law opposed with all his energy this wild spirit of

fanaticism, and its suppression in no small degree is attributable to him. With the skill of an experienced pilot, he kept his eye always fixed on the star of civil and religious liberty, and steered his bark unhurt amidst the dangers that surrounded it.

He opposed the preaching of revivalists, and signed an act prohibiting any itinerant clergyman or exhorter from preaching in a parish without the express desire of the pastor or people; under which Rev. Samuel Finley and others were driven as vagrants.

Governor Shirley of Massachusetts planned the expedition against Cape Breton, and was executed by raw, undisciplined troops. Governor Law saw the great importance of this enterprise, and labored with unwearied industry to prevent its failure.



National Cyclopædia American Biography, Vol. x, p. 325.

Alexander Johnson's Connecticut, p. 342.

Appleton's Cyclopædia American Biography, Vol. iii, p. 637.

Book of 1847, New England Historical and Genealogical Register, p. 188.

RICHARD LAW

SON OF GOVERNOR LAW

Was LL. D., born at Milford, Conn., March 17, 1733. Graduated at Yale in 1751. Studied law and practiced at New London, where he became Chief Justice. Was delegate to Continental Congress 1777-78, and 1781-84. Mayor of New London for twenty years. Justice and Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of State, and District Judge by appointment of Washington. He aided Roger Sherman in revising the Connecticut Code of Statute Law. Died at New London, Jan. 26, 1806.

But for illness, being confined in a hospital June, 1776, with smallpox, he would have been a signer of the Declaration of Independence, as he was nominated as a delegate to the Continental Congress of 1776.

He married Ann Prentis, daughter of John Prentis and Sarah (Christophus) Prentis. John Prentis was commander of the armed Colonial sloop "Defender." Ann Prentis was a direct descendant of Elder William Brewster, who came over in the Mayflower.

He was thoroughly read in the ancient English law authorities, and few American lawyers or jurists of his day and age better understood the great principles of the English common law, or could better discriminate between such of those principles as were applicable to the genius of a republican government, and such as were not, than Judge Law.

Appleton's Universal Cyclopædia, Vol. vii, p. 98.

1847, Book, New England and Historical Genealogical Register, p. 280.

C. F. Binney Prentis Genealogy, 1852, p. 214.

Lamb's Biographical Dictionary of the U. S.

National Cyclopædia American Biography, p. 326, Vol. x.

ABIGAIL SELLECK

DAUGHTER OF (5) JONATHAN SELLECK AND SISTER OF (7) NATHAN SELLECK

Born Feb. 15, 1707, died March 16, 1772. Married Ebenezer Silliman, Oct. 8, 1728.

The children were: Gold Selleck, born May 7, 1732. Ebenezer, Jr., born June 21, 1734. Amelia Gold, born Oct. 30, 1736. Hezekiah, born March 11, 1738. Jonathan, born Aug. 31, 1742. Abigail, born Oct. 28, 1745. Drodade, born Dec. 13, 1749.

From this union came some world-renowned descendants. The historical items given hereafter in regard to the Sillimans are only brief extracts from the articles published. A complete copy of the whole matter would be too laborious for the writer, but the references will enable any interested to make a thorough examination.

In addition to references given Articles will be found in Encyclopædia Britannica, Vol. vii, p. 691.

Nelson's Encyclopædia, Vol. xi, p. 219.

American Cyclopædia, Vol. xv, p. 45.

People's Cyclopædia of Universal Knowledge, p. 1619.

Annual Cyclopædia, Vol. i, 1876, p. 522.

She was buried in the "Old Burying Ground" of Fairfield, Conn., and on the head-stone to her grave is inscribed:

In memory of Mrs. Abigail Silliman. Late amiable consort of the Honorable Ebenezer Silliman Esq. She died March 16. A.D. 1772 aged 65 years and a month wanting one day.

How lov'd, how vally'd once, avails thee not.
To whom related, or by whom begot.
A heap of dust alone remains of thee
'Tis all thou art, and all the proud shall be.

In Fisher's Life of Benjamin Silliman, page 7, is mentioned the Capture of General Gold Selleck Silliman, May 1, 1779, and interesting history connected with her son.

Page 438, Selleck's History of Norwalk.
Page 97, Savage Genealogical Dictionary.
Page 408, Schenck's History of Fairfield County.
Page 202, T. P. Hughes' American Ancestry, Vol. x.

EBENEZER SILLIMAN

MARRIED ABIGAIL SELLECK

Born 1707, baptized Sept. 21, 1707, died Oct. 11, 1775. Son of Robert and Sarah (Hull) Silliman of Fairfield, and grandson of Daniel Silliman, the pioneer Silliman who tradition claims came from Holland.

For twenty-eight years he was a member of the upper house of Colonial legislature. Was Judge of the Superior Court of the Colony for twenty-three successive years.

Oct. 1750. This Assembly do appoint Ebenezer Silliman to be Major of the Fourth Reg in this Colony

Graduate of Yale College in the class of 1727. He was the proprietor of a large landed estate, and an influential man in public affairs.

Ebenezer Silliman

Life of Benjamin Silliman by George P. Fisher, p. 3.
National Cyclopædia American Biography, Vol. vi, p. 54.
Public Records of the Colony of Connecticut, Vol. ix, p. 565.

GENERAL GOLD SELLECK SILLIMAN

SON OF ABIGAIL SELLECK

Born May 7, 1732, died July 21, 1790. Married Jan. 21, 1754. Martha, daughter of Drodade and Lydia (Woodward) Davenport of East Haven, who died Aug. 1, 1774, and the General married May 24, 1775; Mary, widow of Rev. John Noyes of New Haven, died July, 1790.

General Silliman graduated at Yale in 1752. Was Brigadier-General of Militia in the Revolution, and was entrusted for a time with the defence of the Long Island coast.

Jan 29, 1774 This Assembly do appoint Capt Gold Selleck Silliman to be Major of the fourth Regiment of Militia of this Colony.

Oct 13, 1774 This Assembly do appoint Maj Gold Selleck Silliman to be Lieut Col. of the 4th Regiment

March 18, 1776. At a meeting held by the Governor in consequence of a letter from General Washington to his Honor, informing him that the enemy were threatening New York, a place of great importance to both — therefore entreating us immediately to throw 2,000 men in that city from the frontiers of this Colony — to maintain the place until he can arrive there with the army under his command. The case was deemed a very important one, and might in its consequences determine the fate of America. It was ordered that ten companies of ninety men each, including officers under command of Col. Gold Selleck Silliman (together with others) forthwith march or repair by land or water to New York to assist in securing and maintaining that place until General Washington can arrive there.

December, 1776. Appointed Brigadier-General.

Gold Selleck Silliman served throughout the war taking an efficient part in the battles of Long Island, Harlem, White Plains, Danbury and elsewhere. Three days after the battle of Long Island, in which he commanded a regiment, he was promoted by General Washington to the command of a brigade of five regiments.

His activity and energy caused resentment of the enemy, who succeeded in capturing him, and keeping him prisoner on parole. He was exchanged later for Judge Jones of Long Island, whom an expedition from Connecticut had seized and carried off by way

of retaliation. (His personal report and account of his capture, with all the details, can be found in Schenck's History of Fairfield County, also page 7, Fisher's Life of Benjamin Silliman.

Schenck's History of Fairfield Co., Conn., pp. 378, 406, 458.

Public Records of the Colony of Conn., Vol. xiv, pp. 221, 331. Vol. xv, p. 251.

Public Records of the State of Conn., Vol. i, p. 134. Vol. ii, pp. 466, 503.

BENJAMIN SILLIMAN, SR.

GRANDSON OF ABIGAIL SELLECK

Born Aug. 8, 1779, died Nov. 24, 1864. Professor of Yale College. Admitted to the bar in 1802, while a tutor in Yale. In 1818 founded the American Journal of Science and Arts. One of his earliest scientific publications was an account of the famous meteorite which fell in Weston, Connecticut, Dec. 14, 1807. It excited great interest here and abroad, and was read before the Royal Society of London and the French Academy. An interesting Life was prepared from his manuscript reminiscences and correspondence by Professor G. P. Fisher, 2 Vols., New York, 1866.

A bronze statue stands on the grounds of the New Haven University.

He was aptly styled by Edward Everett "The Nestor of American Science," was opposed to slavery in all its forms, and subscribed to aid in arming some of the Kansas colonies.

His person was commanding, his manner dignified and affable, and his general traits of character such as to win universal respect and admiration.

He demonstrated with compound blow-pipe the fusability of several bodies never before fused.

National Cyclopædia of American Biography, Vol. ii, p. 386, has cut of likeness.

Appleton's Universal Cyclopædia, Vol. x, p. 533.

Encyclopædia Britannica, Vol. xxii, p. 66.

T. P. Hughes' American Ancestry, p. 202.

BENJAMIN SILLIMAN, JR.

GREAT-GRANDSON OF ABIGAIL SELLECK

Born in New Haven, Dec. 4, 1816, died Jan. 4, 1885. Graduate from Yale College in 1837 and was immediately employed as an assistant teacher in the department of chemistry, mineralogy and geology. His *First Principles of Chemistry* met with a sale of over 50,000 copies. In 1858 he published his *First Principles of Natural Philosophy* and several other popular works. In 1847 in connection with Professor John P. Norton he established the Yale Scientific School, which has since grown into the Sheffield Scientific School.

In 1868 he disposed of his private collection of minerals, which was purchased by Cornell, and is known as the Silliman Cabinet.

His scientific papers, covering a wide range of topics, number nearly one hundred, of which more than half were published in the "*American Journal of Science*." He was a member of various scientific societies both in Europe and America.

National Cyclopædia American Biography, Vol. ii, p. 386.

Appleton's Universal Cyclopædia, Vol. x, p. 534.

American Cyclopædia, Vol. x, p. 732. With cut of likeness.

BENJAMIN DOUGLAS SILLIMAN

GREAT-GREAT-GRANDSON OF ABIGAIL SELLECK

Born Sept. 14, 1805.

Graduate of Yale. "The Nestor of the New York bar." In an address before the graduating class of Columbia Law School in 1867, he said: "No man can consistently, with personal honor, or professional reputation, misstate a fact or a principle to the court or jury. The man who would cheat a court or jury would cheat anybody else."

In 1838 was a member of the legislature. In 1853 was nominated for state senate, but declined the nomination. Received the degree of LL. D. from Columbia College in 1873,

and from Yale College in 1874. He introduced and procured the passage of the bill incorporating Greenwood Cemetery. Was appointed by President Lincoln to the office of U. S. District Attorney for New York. He was for more than twenty years the President of the Yale Alumni Association of Long Island.

Trustee of Greenwood Cemetery. Director of the Long Island Historical Society. President of the New England Society of Brooklyn from its organization until 1886, when he declined a re-election. Was Vice-president and one of the founders of the Bar Association of New York City, and in other literary and benevolent institutions.

National Cyclopædia American Biography, Vol. vi, p. 54.

AUGUSTUS ELY SILLIMAN

GREAT-GREAT-GRANDSON OF ABIGAIL SELLECK

Born April 11, 1807, died in Brooklyn May 30, 1884.

In 1857 was elected President of the Merchants Bank in New York City, and held it until 1868, when he retired on account of ill health. The directors passed resolutions recording their sense of the ability, devotion, and courteous bearing with which he had fulfilled every trust for forty years.

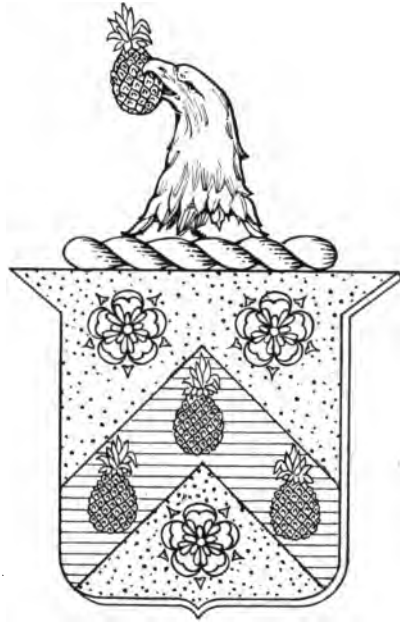
Was author of several works and translations. In honor of his mother's memory he bequeathed to Yale College nearly \$100,000.

National Cyclopædia of American Biography, Vol. vi, p. 231.

MAJOR NATHAN GOLD

FATHER OF (6) ABIGAIL GOLD, THE WIFE OF (5) JONATHAN SELLECK

Came from St. Edmundsburg, England, in 1646. Moved to Fairfield in reign of Charles II. Was one of the first settlers of the town. He was a wealthy and educated gentleman, and is often mentioned in Smith's History of New York.



THE GOLD COAT OF ARMS

Or, on a chevron, between three roses, azure, three pineapples.
Crest. An eagle's head erased, azure. In the beak is a pineapple.

He was one of the nineteen petitioners named in the Charter of Connecticut, dated April 12, in the fourteenth year of the reign of Charles II, 1646, which petition was signed by no gentleman unless he had a high reputation in England before he came to New England. Inventory of his estate, £400. 3s. 6d.

Was member of Committee of Defence against the Dutch, 1662. Representative to First Colonial Congress in New York, 1690. Major of Dragoons, 1675.

Settled in Fairfield, Connecticut, in 1649. Chosen member of the Council in 1657, and held the office for many years. His name is mentioned in the Connecticut Royal Charter of 1662. Died March 4, 1694, "greatly revered and beloved by the people of the town, and honored throughout Connecticut, New England, and in fact throughout the country, for his christian character, sterling worth, and great influence and usefulness."

Assistant 1657; Member of the Committee of War 1665; Major 1673; commanding troops from Fairfield County in King Phillip's War. Will was dated March 1, 1693. Among other bequests he gave to Abigail his daughter, wife of Jonathan Selleck, certain property. Married Martha, widow of Edward Harvey. His children were Sarah, married John Thompson; Deborah, married George Clark; Abigail, married Jonathan Selleck.

Nathan Gold is approved by this Court to bee put to election at the next Gen'l Court of Election, for to bee a Magistrate in this Jurisdickt for the yeare ensuing Apl 9. 1657

May 1657 This court doth confirm Mr Gold to bee Leiten^t at Fairfield.

May 1660 This Court doth appoint Mr Gold (and two others) to hear and determine ye difference twix Norwolk inhabi^t and ye Indians there.

The Charter of Connecticut as sent by Charles II, King of England, appoints a Body Pollitique and Corporate by the name of Governor and company of the English Colony of Connecticut with a common seal — to have one Governor, one Deputy Governor and twelve Assistants.

This article covers ten pages of instructions and authority

for the government of the Colony, Nathan Gold being one of the twelve Assistants.

Oct 10. 1667 This Court grants to Mr Nathan Gold the sume of Three Hundred Acres of land for a farm, whereof there may be forty acres of meadow if it may be found — provided it may not be prejudicial to a plantation or any former grant.

June 26. 1672 And it is hereby declared that till farther order be taken Capt Nathan Gold shall be deemed Cheif military officer of the County of Fayrefield.

Aug 7 1673 Capt Nathan Gold is chosen Major for the County of Fayerfield.

Aug 6. 1675 The Indians still proceeding in their hostile attempts (against) the English: it is ordered by the Council that there be forthwith rayseed in the County of Fayrefield, seventy dragoons to be in readiness for a march with their armes and ammunition compleate, upon an houers warning: Maj Gold and the Com^d of that County or so many of them as shall meet together, to proportion the members to be rayseed in each plantation, and to appoint a Lut. Ensgn. and two Sarj^{nt} for the Company

Nov 22. 1675 The Council did order and empower Maj Gold to take special order that the souldiers returned to that County under conduct of Capt Seely be forthwith prepared with accomodations of cloathing, armes and horss, sufficient for the march: and that ten hatchets be purchased for ten of the souldiers of that County to be worn by their sides instead of swords.

Nov 14. 1683 Nathan Gold (and four others) were appointed a Committee to visit New York to meet Col. Tho. Dungan Esq. Gov. of his Highness the Duke of Yorke, to congratulate him on his safe arrival in these parts according to your commission, which you may show him.

In treating with him about settlement of bounds between that Territory and this Colony, you shall not exceed his demands of twenty miles eastward from Hudson River, but get him to take up with as little as may be.

You are to see his power to treat and conclude, or if that appear not to your satisfaction, then you must treat and conclude only conditionally, and with this proviso, that his Magesty and the Duke's Higness shall please to ratify it.

You are to remember all along to make his Honor sensible how firm and legal the former settlement was, and that our varying from it, is to oblige his Honor and promote a perpetual good correspondence between this his majesty's colony and his royal Heighness' territories and the successive Governors of them both.

May 8. 1684 The Court having heard the agreement made by the Committee, to settle the bounds between this Colony and New York, they approve of what was done and appoint Maj Nathan Gold,

Jonathan Selleck and John Bur. who are hereby commissioned to attend the service of laying out the line.

May 13. 1680 This Court upon good reasons given by Maj Nathan Gold, to the satisfaction of the court do free him from building upon that home lot that lyeth between Mr Nathan Burrs home lot and his own, without any penalty, any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

April 11. 1690 Owing to war with French and Indians and what opportunities to plant and sow being uncertain, and danger of transportation to Boston by reason of pirates, it is ordered that no corn or provisions of any sort be shipped on board any vessel, in any part of this Colony to be transported out of the Colony, for the space of three months, without special licence from the Governor or two assistants — upon penalty of Confiscation or forfeiture. Assistants in Fairfield County Maj Nathan Gold and John Burr.

Oct 8 1691 Whereas there has been a long and continued controversy between Isaac Hall and Samuel Hall that hath made much trouble, it is recommended to our Hon. Gov. that Maj Gold and Mr John Bur take the pains and use their best endeavors to settle them in a good and peaceful way according to the rules of riteousness. If that does not do they are to put each of them in peaceful possession of their respective rights, and whoever disturbs the peace of the other, shall forthwith be secured and punished according to law

In the Public Records of the Colony of Connecticut, the name of Major Nathan Gold appears over sixty times in connection with public documents, relating to the laws and government of the Colony.

Jay Gould, the prominent New York financier, was a sixth descendant of Major Nathan Gold.

Major Nathan Gold was in Milford, Connecticut, as early as 1647, in which year he purchased George Hubbard's dwelling-house and home lot at Milford and all his upland and meadow.

On thirty-first of next December he sold the same and moved to Fairfield.

Public Records of the Colony of Connecticut, Vol. i, pp. 294, 299, 353.

Lamb's Biographical Dictionary, p. 317.

Schenck's History of Fairfield County, p. 370.

Selleck's History of Norwalk.

Society of Colonial Wars, District of Columbia, p. 12.

Public Records of the Colony of Connecticut, Vol. ii, pp. 3, 77, 183, 206, 347, 382. Vol. iii, p. 135.

Public Records of the Colony of Connecticut, Vol. iii, pp. 60, 141. Vol. iv, pp. 16, 63.

Genealogical and Family History of the State of Connecticut, Vol. ii, p. 257.

National Cyclopædia American Biography, Vol. vii, p. 218.

NATHAN GOLD, Jr.

SON OF MAJOR NATHAN GOLD

Appears to have succeeded his father as member of the Council, and in 1708 was chosen Deputy Governor of Connecticut, also Chief Justice of the Superior Court of the Colony in 1712, and filled both offices until his death.

Married Hannah, daughter of Colonel John Talcott, of Hartford. He died in Fairfield, Oct. 31, 1723.

In records of Congregational Church appears:

Jenny, negro girl, belonging to Hon. Nathan Gold, baptised June 9 1717

The (Colonial) Assembly grants to the heirs of the Hon Nathan Gold Esq. late Deputy Governor of this Colony, that they shall receive out of the treasury, the whole salary which would have now paid him, if it had pleased God to have spared him longer to us, and thereupon order, that the treasurer pay to John Gold his eldest son, for himself and the other children of that worthy gentleman the sum of fifty pounds. Oct 1723

In the Public Records of the Colony of Connecticut, for the years 1717 to 1723, inclusive, the name of Nathan Gold appears 209 times in connection with public documents relating to the laws and government of the Colony.

Public Records of the Colony of Connecticut, 1717-1725, p. 433.
Schenck's History of Fairfield, Connecticut.
Vol. xii, National Cyclopædia of American Biography, p. 311.

(7) NATHAN SELLECK

BORN SEPT. 12, 1686; DIED JAN. 15, 1772.

His first wife was Susanna, only child of Wm. Hooker of Farmington, Conn. She was eighteen years old when they were married Aug. 12, 1708.

She died Oct. 5, 1709, leaving one child, Susanna, born Sept. 3, 1709. This daughter married Joseph St. John and became the ancestress of the Norwalk Buckingham St. John, Buckingham Lockwood, and Isaac Scudder Isaacs, childrens blood.



DWELLING OF (7) NATHAN SELLECK

The original of this was kindly furnished by Miss Catharine Richards Seely of Darien, Connecticut, who remembers the house well. She is the great, great, grandchild of Nathan and Sarah Sands Selleck.

She states that it was built for Nathan by his father, Jonathan Selleck, Jr., about 1708. It was located on what was known as the Farms Road, in Stamford; later on Darien was taken from Stamford including the Selleck farm. In early days it was known as The Farms, always called so by members of the family.

The house was built for Nathan and Susanna. Nathan lived there with all three of his wives. It went to Nathan, Jr.

The person shown in the picture is Libbie Seely, sister of Catharine.

Nathan married for his second wife, Dec. 2, 1710, Mary, daughter of Capt. John Sands of Long Island.

Nathan married for his third wife, Sarah, daughter of Capt. Samuel Sands.

THE SANDS FAMILY

The Sands can be distinctly traced to the time of Edward the Confessor, 1041. It will be recollected that Lord Sands is one of the dramatis personæ in Shakespear's Henry VIII. On page 17 of the History of the Families of Skeet and others, will be found the Coat of Arms of Robt. Sands of St. Bee's, in Cumberland, who was the direct ancestor of branches of the family which had no less than three Peerages and three Baronetcies, conferred at various times; this can be followed and a connection will show with George Washington.

SANDYS (SANDS) PEDIGREE

1. *George Sandys* (great grandson of Robert Sandys, of Rattenby Castle, St. Bee's, Cumberland, Eng., in 1399).

Res. Eastwaithe, in Hawkshead, County Lancaster, Eng.

Children: (*Inter alios*) Edwin, Anthony.

2. *Archbishop Edwin Sandys*, b., about 1516 (in the reign of Henry VIII), at Hawkshead, County Lancaster, Eng.; d. July 10, 1588, aged 72, at; m. (1), at, to; b., at; d., at, in Germany; m. (2) (shortly after his appointment as Bishop of Worcester in 1559), at, to *Cecelie Wilford* (daughter of Thomas Wilford of Crambrook, County Kent, Esq.), b., at; d. (she survived her husband), at

Res. He was educated at Cambridge University; became Master of Catherine Hall, Cambridge, and Vice-Chancellor of that University. On death of King Edward, 1553, he preached a sermon proclaiming Lady Jane Gray the Queen, for which act he was imprisoned in the Tower of London and about a year subsequently was pardoned by Queen Mary and removed to Germany, where he was soon followed by his first wife. In 1559 he was made Bishop of Worcester by Queen Elizabeth; in 1570 he was made Bishop of London; in 1577 he was promoted to the Archbishopric of York, which office he held until his death.

Children: 1st m., James (prob. died young), another child, died young in Germany; 2nd m., Samuel, Edwin, Miles, William, Thomas, Henry, George, Margaret, Ann.

3. *Henry Sandys*, b., at; d., at; m. (1) (prob.), at, to, b., at; d., at; m. (2), at, to *Priscilla Chauncey* (dau. of Tobias and Bridget (Shelley) Chauncey, Knight and Sheriff of Northamptonshire, 36th Elizabeth; Bridget Shelley was dau. of John Shelley, Esq., of Michelgrove, County Sussex, 6 miles west of Shoreham).

Res. Culworth, Northamptonshire, Eng.

Children: 1st m., James (prob.); and m., Edwin (whose will shows that he had a brother Chauncey living in the Bermudas and a nephew, John, living in New England, and a nephew, Sir William Wake, his executor); Henry, Robert, Chauncey, Bridget (who married the father of Sir William Wake, the executor of her brother Edwin's will. This Bridget was mentioned in the will of the widow of Archbishop Sandys).

4. *Capt. James Sandys* (or *Sands*), b., 1622, at Reading, County Berks, Eng. (possibly); d. March 13, 1695, at Block Island, R. I.; m., 1645, at, Eng. (prob.), to *Sarah Walker* (dau. of John and Catherine (Hutchinson) Walker, of Portsmouth, R. I.; Catherine Walker was a dau. of Capt. Edward Hutchinson, Sr., of Portsmouth, R. I.)

Res. Block Island, R. I. First Representative from Block Island to the General Court of Rhode Island in 1665; Assistant Warden in 1676; commanded the New Shoreham Company in King Philip's War and his house was turned into a fort and garrisoned by him. Came over to this country in 1638, and landed at Plymouth, Mass.; in 1642 was engaged in building a house for William Hutchinson at Eastchester, N. Y. Lands granted him in Portsmouth, R. I., 1643-4; Freeman of Portsmouth, R. I., 1655; 1657 Commissioner from Portsmouth, R. I., to the General Court; 1661 sailed from Taunton, Mass., for New Shoreham (Block Island) where they settled; 1663-4 Constable of Block Island.

Children: JOHN, James, SAMUEL, Edward, Sarah, Mercy.

Capt. John Sands, son of (4) Capt. James Sands, died March 15, 1712. He married Sybil Ray, daughter of Simeon Ray, of Block Island. She was born March 19, 1665, died Dec. 23, 1733.

Their daughter Mary was married to (7) Nathan Selleck, Capt. Samuel Sands, son of (4) Capt. James Sands, died 1716; married (1st) Dorothy Ray (sister of Sybil, John's wife); later married Elizabeth—; all children by first wife.

Their daughter Sarah was married to (7) Nathan Selleck.

Genealogical Dictionary of Rhode Island, by J. O. Austin.

Selleck's History of Norwalk, pp. 126, 438.

Imperial Dictionary of Universal Biography.

N. Y. Genealogical & Biographical Record, July, 1912, p. 293.

Descent of Comfort Sands, pp. 1, 4, 5, 41, 42.

My Forefathers, by A. M. Bradshaw, p. 167.

History of Long Island, by Benj. F. Thompson, Vol. ii, p. 463.



Sandys

HERALDIC DESCRIPTION

ARMS: *Or*, a fesse dancettée between three cross-crosslets fitchée *gules*.

CREST: A griffin segreant per fesse *or* and *gules*.

MOTTO: *Probum non poenitet.*



NIGHTCAP OWNED AND WORN BY SARAH SANDS SELLECK
(Courtesy of Caroline Richards Seely)

(8) SARAH SANDS

Born 1696, died Nov. 4, 1789.

She was daughter of Captain Samuel Sands, son of Captain James Sands, who came to this country in 1638 from Berkshire, England, and was one of the purchasers of Block Island in 1660.

Rev. Samuel Niles' History of the Indian and French Wars, found in Massachusetts Historical Society Collection, 3d series, Vol. vi, contains considerable interesting history of the Sands family.

(10) MARY RAYMOND SELLECK

WIFE OF SANDS SELLECK

Born June 17, 1723, died, 1812.

In the distribution of the effects of Sands Selleck, her husband, as authorized by the Court's order, as appears in the Records of the Stamford Probate Court under date of Dec. 28, 1772, Mary, his wife, received what was considered one third of his estate, and the inventory of her share included:

- 1 Negro Wench valued 52£ 10s.
- 1 Negro Man valued 30£

The Stamford records show under date of April 6, 1797:

This is to certify that I, Widow Mary Selleck of Stamford do fully give Nathan Africa and Chloe his wife, a certain negro boy by the name of Harry, their son, formerly belonging to me.

Mary Selleck

Witnesses

Chas D. Belding

Anna Belding. (her daughter)

(11) SIMEON SELLECK

Regimental Quartermaster of 5th Connecticut, May 20, to June 20, 1775.

Enlisted in the 5th regiment, Colonel Waterbury's company, at Stamford, Connecticut, and was commissioned Quartermaster May 20th; discharged in New York June 20, 1775.

The said company, recruited mainly in Fairfield County,

Connecticut, marched first to New York and then to the Northern Department.

Served thirty-two days and succeeded in capturing the Kings Stores in Horseneck.

In the 6th Book, page 60, Early Connecticut Marriages by Rev. F. M. Bailey, it is recorded that Simeon Selleck married Mary Belden, Feb. 28, 1771.

Rev. E. B. Huntington's History of Stamford, p. 243.

Connecticut Men in the War of the Revolution, p. 64.

Heitman's Register of the Officers of the Continental Army, p. 361.

(13) BENJAMIN SELLECK

The first efforts of the writer in preparing this record, were discouraging from the fact that he had so little information about Benjamin. The record of the marriage of Benjamin and (14) Deborah Peck appears in the family Bible, but the opportunities for information from those who knew him personally had passed.

On page 439 of Selleck's History of Norwalk appears:

Simon married Feb 28. 1771 Mary Belden of Stamford. Had Betsey Polly, Benjamin and Anne. These children and their parents belonged in Stamford rather than in Norwalk.

On the same page appears the foot note referred to hereafter under Samuel Selleck. This clearly connects (11) Simeon, his brother Samuel, and (13) Benjamin as relatives. (See record of Samuel and his daughters Caroline and Angeline next article.)

The oldest son of Benjamin (15) Sands E. Selleck, bore the given name of Sands, the same as the given name of his grandfather, (9) Sands Selleck. Sands was a family name of some of the direct ancestors of Benjamin, and he appears in naming his first-born after his grandfather.

In the line of descendants, Benjamin comes in as the oldest son, undoubtedly inherited the Selleck signet ring, and passed it on to his son (15) Sands E. Selleck.

Benjamin Selleck died in Texas; a friend of his returned from there and brought some of his personal effects which he turned over to his wife, Deborah. He stated that Benjamin owned

Thursday April 25th 1837

Arose at 5 the confusion most all made ones a swearing they could not find their boots others looking for their hats no room to turn round though I would never travel by the canal again, slept very cold, am not my self yet, hope I shall be soon, went ashore very cold the ground frozen quite hard, walked a mile come to another tunnel. like the one described heretofore, only the first we pass through by land the last by water. a person passing under one of these mountains would hardly believe his own eyes, the last one is 960 feet long, walked about 4 miles before breakfast went on board. again took breakfast at 8 went ashore again saw a great many salt works they bore down ~~through~~ under the river about 3 or 400 feet and find very salt water, the river is fresh called the Conemaugh river saw 3 men riding across the river on horseback, they did not know the right course to take and found some difficulty in crossing the bottom being very rough, the got very wet. and we had quite

a laugh at them walked about 5 miles saw a great many tremendous hills and mountains went on board again had a considerable of fun Mr Ferguson brought out some things ~~from~~ he had purchased from some auction store in New York a Mr Clark officiated as auctioneer and sold them off very fast at about 50 per cent more than cost, took dinner at 1 went ashore walked 3 miles went aboard again quite tired was quite amused with the different remarks and jokes made by the passengers Mr Ferguson trying to sell steel pens and other articles he had on hand made rare sport for us all, passed through an aqueduct about 1400 feet long very ingeniously put up on buttments made of stone with arches extending to a great height built of wood took tea at 1 went ashore with Mr Hall walked 4 miles, went on board again. waters putting up with a great confusion not room to turn round in the canal. went to rest at 10 o'clock (fare from Philadelphia to Pittsburgh 17 dollars meals included distance 40¢ miles

FROM A JOURNAL WRITTEN BY SANDS E. SELLECK

large tracts of land there and had been located at a place called Selleck's Bluff. Mentioned the fact that the land was measured by leagues. Efforts to learn something about the land were unsuccessful.

SAMUEL SELLECK

BROTHER OF (11) SIMEON

In Rev. Charles M. Selleck's History of Norwalk in a footnote on page 439 is found:

Married Aug 1st 1779 Hannah Smith, had nine children, the two youngest of whom Angeline born Sep 4. 1796 and Caroline born March 8. 1802 lived until recently at the Ring's End Landing Darien homestead, there established by their father.

In boyhood and early manhood Wm E. Selleck visited here in company of his grandmother (14) Deborah Selleck repeatedly.

Angeline was the widow of a man named Brown. Caroline was unmarried.

The homestead was elegant in every particular. Large fine house, expensively furnished. The grounds were extensive on the bank of an inlet from Long Island Sound, well kept up, and the whole establishment showed wealth, good taste, and refinement.

(14) DEBORAH (PECK) SELLECK

BORN SEPT. 29, 1789, DIED NOV. 12, 1877

Deborah Selleck was a remarkable woman; small, would weigh about 120 pounds, but very active, which she retained until she was far advanced in years. Her cooking was fine, and if any of the neighbors were sick, she would make up some nice dish and send to them. She had at one time a small girl working for her, whom she instructed to take a delicate dish to some one. When the girl returned my grandmother asked her what they said. The girl replied with an air my grandmother used to imitate when relating the story, "They never said nothin'; they just took it as if you owed it to 'em." She used to take great pleasure in telling this.

On the evening preceding her eightieth birthday, some neighbors were calling on her, and the subject of horseback-riding came up. She said she was a good rider, and would like to go riding. A young lady present said she would like to ride with

her, and if she would go all arrangements would be made to carry it out the next day, her eightieth birthday. The ride was successfully taken. The newspaper at Greenwich heard of it and published quite an article. Instead of accepting it as intended, she did not like it; said she did not know as it was anyone's business but her own, and they had no right to put her in the papers.

In her late years she became nearly blind, but she would not give up; would insist on serving tea or coffee at the table, but frequently would pour it outside of the cup.

If any one attempted to assist her in getting into or out of a carriage she would say, "Never mind, I can help myself."

(15) SANDS E. SELLECK

BORN MARCH 18, 1812, DIED AUG. 21, 1865

He was a man of fine mechanical ability, and a good business man. He learned the carpenters' trade with Nathaniel E. Adams of Stamford, who was the executor of the will of Deborah Selleck. He went to Illinois some time about 1835, then went back and married Eliza Ayres in New York City, who accompanied him to Tremont, Tazwell Co., Ill. About 1842, they moved to St. Louis, Mo., where he went into business as builder and contractor. He built the Boatmen's Church on Green St., between 2d and 3d; the Varieties Theatre on Market St., between 5th and 6th; also Merchants Row on 2d St., from Morgan to next street north. About 1860, he went to Connecticut and stayed there until he died. He was a very social man, was very fond of a good table, and while he was in business was extremely neat in his personal appearance. Would weigh about 170.

He bought a lot on Walnut St., between 7th and 8th, soon after he moved to St. Louis, built a two-story brick house on it, and it was the home of the family until my mother's death.

Sands E. Selleck.



INSIGNIA OF THE SOCIETY OF
THE SONS OF THE AMERI-
CAN REVOLUTION



INSIGNIA OF THE ORDER OF
THE FOUNDERS AND PA-
TRIOTS OF AMERICA

(16) ELIZA SELLECK

BORN MARCH 24, 1811, DIED NOV. 7, 1858

Eliza Selleck

It is a great pity that we can have only one mother; especially so when Eliza (Ayres) Selleck is considered.

She was a fine, dignified looking woman, would weigh about 140 pounds. Was a good housekeeper, and possessed all the requisites necessary to make a good wife and mother.

She was a member of the Second Presbyterian Church of St. Louis, that was located on the northwest corner of Walnut and 5th Sts. Dr. Potts, pastor.

She died after a severe illness in St. Louis, and was buried in Bellefontaine Cemetery, but was afterwards disinterred, and buried in Connecticut at Sound Beach.

Seventeen years of tender care, advice, and motherly love have been partially compensated for by over fifty years of gratitude and veneration.

Buckingham Church, Worcester County
E. Shore Maryland

January 12, 1834

I do hereby certify that Miss Eliza Ayres, is this time a member of this church in full standing. As she wishes to reside in New York for some time, she is recommended to the consideration of our sister churches, where God in his providence may cast her lot

By order of the Session

Joshua Prideaux Clerk.

(17) WILLIAM E. SELLECK

BORN FEB. 18, 1841

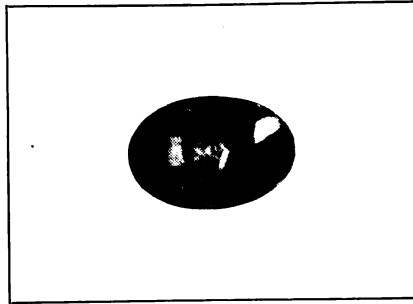
My earliest recollection of school was with Mrs. Spencer on 5th St., between Myrtle and Elm, in St. Louis. When I was about twelve years old, was sent to a boarding school, The Des Peres Institute, Rev. Jas. Galbraith, Principal, about fifteen miles from St. Louis. After a few days there, became so home-

sick that I walked home, to be sent back by stage the next day. The boys imposed fearfully on a new pupil, but after fighting my way, and subduing a fair percentage, was accepted in the ring. Later went to John Durkin, E. M. Avery, Laclede Public, and last High School, Olive and 15th Sts. Worked at carpenters, trade and afterwards entered the architect's office of Barnett, Scholl and Isaacs.

Soon after the Civil War broke out, went South and was on the battlefield of Shiloh very soon after the battle was fought. Remained South until after the war closed. Was in the Quartermaster's Department at Columbus, Ky., Jackson, Tenn., Memphis, Tenn., and Vicksburgh, Miss. Was connected with the U. S. Treasury Department at Vicksburgh, Jackson, Miss., and Meridian, Miss. Served as Color Sergeant in the Vicksburgh Militia for about two years. Planted cotton three years in Mississippi and Louisiana. Later went into business, general store at Black Rock, N. Y. In 1871 went with T. R. Pullis & Bro., Iron Foundry at St. Louis, and was Superintendent of their works until 1879. Went to Chicago and entered into business with Hamilton Borden, firm name Borden, Selleck & Co., Western Agents of the Howe Scale Co., had branch houses in St. Louis, Cleveland, Cincinnati, Kansas City, and Minneapolis. The store in Chicago was on corner Lake and Dearborn, afterwards on Lake St. between State and Wabash Av. Retired from a successful business in 1893.

Member of the Illinois Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, The Pennsylvania Society of the Order of Founders and Patriots of America, Life Member The American Flag Association and The Union League Club, Chicago.

Have visited every state in the United States except North Carolina, been to Canada, British Columbia, England, Ireland, Scotland, Belgium, Netherlands, France, Germany, Switzerland, Spain, Portugal, Italy, Greece, Austria, Turkey, Palestine, Syria, Egypt, Tunis, Algeria, Morocco, China, Japan, Mexico, Yucatan, British Honduras, Honduras, Guatemala, Costa Rica, Salvador, Panama, Nicaragua, Brazil, Uruguay, Argentine,



SANDS E. SELLECK AT 1855



WM. E. SELLECK AT 1862



ELIZA SELLECK AT 1854



LIZZIE P. SELLECK at 1912



JUNE M. SELLECK at 1912



WM. DAYTON SELLECK at 1912

Chili, Islands of Madeira, Malta, Honolulu, Cuba, St. Thomas, St. Kitts, Antigua, Barbados, Dominica, Grenada, Guadaloupe, Martinique, Montserrat, Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Trinidad, Sicily, Tierra del Fuego, Valencia (Ireland).

(19) JUNE MONTROSS SELLECK

BORN MAY 5, 1867

Attended Chicago public schools, Morgan Park Military Academy, Chicago Manual Training School, and Chicago University.

Was first employed by Borden, Selleck & Co. in their scale Department, then as draughtsman in their office, and later as salesman of coal handling machinery.

After visiting Europe, was employed as traveling salesman; later again went to Europe, spending some time in Hamburg and Berlin.

In 1896, went to California and devoted several years to gold mining in Calaveras and Mariposa counties.

In 1901 he accepted position with J. A. Mead Manufacturing Co. as Superintendent of Construction, and erected some of the largest coal handling plants on the Great Lakes.

In 1909 he was appointed Manager of the Great Northern Coal and Dock Co. at Superior, Wis., and still holds the position.

(21) WILLIAM DAYTON SELLECK

BORN DEC. 13, 1892

The following article was written by William Dayton Selleck and published for the first time in the "Echo," the annual publication of the Senior class of the Superior High School, Superior, Wisconsin. It is reprinted here in lieu of the biographical sketch allotted to the other descendants of the Selleck family.



A TRIP TO EGYPT

WILLIAM DAYTON SELLECK, 1912

Arriving at Alexandria about seven o'clock in the morning, we were taken ashore on a large barge, towed by a small tug. We got on a special train for Cairo, which was waiting for us at the landing, and left about nine-thirty. This train was much finer than any we had traveled on before in the old country. It had a passage along one side connecting all the compartments. The only thing of interest in Alexandria that we saw from the train was Pompey's pillar. This pillar is eighty-nine feet high, made of one solid block of red granite brought from Upper Egypt. This pillar has no historical relation to Pompey, but was erected in honor of Diocletian.

From the train, going through the country, we saw the farmers plowing their fields with their crude plows, made of crooked boughs of trees, shaped like fish-hooks, sharpened to points. The ground is merely scratched with these plows. Very often we saw a camel and a caribou hitched together, and once a camel and a donkey. It is surprising the way the grains that they plant grow after the ground has been prepared in this manner.

They have very crude ways of getting the water up from the irrigating ditches to their own small canals. One way is by a long, wooden tube, with a spiral inside. When this tube is turned around the water is brought up. Another way is by means of a caribou or a camel hitched to a shaft that comes out from a wooden wheel lying parallel to the ground. Wooden pins are sticking out on the rim of this for cogs. This wheel is geared into another of the same construction, vertical to the ground, on which is a belt with a number of jugs attached, which bring the water up, as the camel or caribou keeps walking around. In most cases these animals are blindfolded. Still another is by means of a long pole pivoted on a short post driven into the ground. The long pole has a weight on the short end of it, and a rope with a pail on the other. They drop the pail into the water, fill it up, then the weight on the short end of the pole pulls the pail up.

From the train we saw a number of men and boys swimming in the irrigation canals; some of them were washing a caribou.

The first things we saw that were really Egyptian were the pyramids, which could be seen when we were still a number of miles from them.

We arrived in Cairo about one o'clock, after a very dusty ride. Getting into a carriage in front of the depot, we told the driver the name of the hotel at which we were to stop. It was the Grand Continental, and he drove up there at breakneck speed. This fast driving is characteristic of the cabmen in Cairo. The hotel had a large veranda, which was about twenty-five feet wide by a block long. There were chairs and tables placed all over it. Leading to the main entrance was a large glass canopy that ran all the way from the street. When we got inside the door, a number of little Egyptian bell-boys stood, waiting to carry our valises. They all had fine, dark red, silk suits, trimmed with gold braid. Two of them escorted us to the elevator. We were taken up to the top floor where we were met by two more bellboys, who took us to our rooms. The rooms were two fine, large, light ones, which faced on the garden in the court. When we finally got all our baggage placed in our rooms we rested for a while, then went down to the bazaars, with Grandpa as our guide.

The bazaars were about a half a mile from the hotel, so we walked down to them. On our way down we saw several of the water vendors; the water of the Nile is not good to drink unless it is boiled; these men boil and filter this water, then sell it for a small price; they carry large jugs of it strapped over their backs; the jug has a long spout on it and to fill the cups, which are made of brass, they bend over; they carry two of these cups in their hands, which they rattle to attract attention.

When we reached the bazaars there were several guides there, who persisted in showing us through, but as grandpa had been down there before we did not need a guide. We almost had to fight with these men to get rid of them.

The bazaars cover two square blocks. It consists of numberless small shops, which are simply niches in the walls, where these Egyptian merchantmen ply their trade. They sit here all day on their stone platforms, manufacturing their gold, silver and brass articles. The passages where the people walk through are only about two feet wide, and the streets, including the shops on both sides, are not over ten feet wide. The whole bazaar is roofed over. There is a regular maze of these streets which twist and turn. If you are not very careful you will get lost. This bazaar which we visited was only the gold and silver bazaar. There are different portions of this one great bazaar which are set out for certain classes of articles. After looking around in here for two hours, we returned to the hotel for dinner.

After breakfast the next morning we got into a carriage and drove to the Citadel. The Citadel is situated on a precipice, which is about two hundred and fifty feet above the level of the plain on which the

city is built. From this fortress you can get a very fine view of the city. You can see the strong walls with their towers, the gardens, squares, palaces and mosques, with their graceful minarets. The Nile is seen in the distance with the pyramids to the east. Within the Citadel is the mosque of Mehemet Ali. This is a very beautiful mosque, having great, thick, Turkish rugs covering the floor, like all the other mosques. The pulpit is of gold, having a narrow stairway leading to it of beautifully carved wood. All the pulpits in the mosques are about fifteen feet above the floor. The pillars supporting the dome of this mosque are all of alabaster; at each end is a large chandelier about twenty feet in diameter; about a foot apart all around this are glass globes which look like our fish bowls. On a certain holiday each year they put a candle in each globe to celebrate the day. In order to enter any mosque you have to either take your shoes off, or put on a pair of cumbersome slippers. All the Mohammedans, who go in to worship, take their shoes off, and wash their faces and hands in a fountain, which is in front of all the mosques, but the Christian people only put on these slippers over their shoes. It is a very funny sight to see these people sliding along in these slippers, afraid to lift their feet for fear of losing them (the slippers). Some people, forgetting they had them on, after looking at something for a minute, would lift their feet and leave them behind (the slippers again). All of a sudden a big, brawny Mohammedan would run up to them, waving the slippers in the air, and talking as fast as he could in his native tongue. The first time this happens to you it scares you nearly to death; you think he is going to kill you with the slipper, but you get used to it after a while. When we had seen all there was to see in here we went outside, got into our carriage, and waited for the rest of the party.

While we were waiting a number of men and boys gathered around us and tried to sell their different wares. One of them came up, wiped grandpa's shoes off with his handkerchief; then asked him if he didn't want to buy some of his mummy cats. There were six of these mummy cats placed at intervals on a string of beads. They were supposed to have been taken off a mummy that had been dug up recently. They looked antique enough but hundreds of them are manufactured every day. We had a lot of fun joking and bargaining with these men and boys.

From here we drove to the Tombs of the Mamelukes. One of the carriages in front of us ran over a small child. We saw the natives standing in front of the house where the child lived, jumping around, crying and yelling as loud as they could.

These Tombs of the Mamelukes are simply sarcophagi, placed out in the open. They were built between the thirteenth and sixteenth centuries. Each had a number of attendants, and were very elaborately decorated, but they are gradually falling into decay now. The most important of these tombs is the Tomb Mosque of the Sultan

Barkak, which has a fine dome and two minarets. It is an elaborate building with a number of prayer niches, corridors, and the rooms for the dead opening upon a large square court, which is in the center. The most beautiful sarcophagus in here is the one in which the present Khedive's father is laid at rest. This mosque is one of the most perfect examples of Arabian architecture to be found.

We drove from here to the mosque of the Sultan Hassan, which is the most important of all the mosques in Cairo. It is built out of the casing stones of the pyramids. The sultan had the architect's hands cut off after all the plans were completed so he could not design another like it. It is made in the form of a cross and has the highest minaret in Cairo. The center of the cross is open and in the arms are large corridors and rooms. All through these corridors are numberless chains hanging down from the ceiling, which is the roof of the building. These chains are broken off very irregularly. Originally lamps hung from them, but the chains are too old and weak to hold them now. In one of the side rooms, where no direct rays of the sun can come, is the tomb of the sultan. The only light that comes in is through blue glass windows, which are cut through the ten-foot walls. This light gives the room a very mysterious effect. About twenty feet from the floor is a panel of dark brown wood which goes around the whole room. This panel is inlaid with Arabic writing of a darker wood, saying that: "This building is dedicated to Allah the Merciful and Compassionate." From here we drove back to the hotel for lunch. On the way back I learned the Arabic numerals. I learned them from the back of the cabs, where the license number is written in English and Arabic.

After eating a hearty lunch we drove to the Coptic Church in Old Cairo. When we got there we had to walk across some railroad tracks, and through a very narrow, dusty street to get to the church. The street was just filled with little children hollering, "Bakshish," which means "Please give me some money." When we finally got to the church, which was all in ruins, we had to go down a very dark flight of stairs to see the place where Mary was supposed to have rested in her flight from the Holy Land. The Coptic Church is next in strength to the Mohammedan in Egypt.

Mother left her pocketbook in the carriage and did not miss it until we came out of the church; as I got out of the carriage I picked up the pocketbook, put it in my pocket, and waited for the fun. When we got back to the carriage she asked the cabman if he had seen it, and he said, "No." Then grandpa, thinking he had stolen it got mad at him and threatened to have him arrested; now the cabman got mad. When they were all pretty mad I gave the pocketbook to mother; then grandpa got mad at me.

We had to climb over the railroad gates to get across the tracks to our carriage. The gate tender said the train was due, and he had to keep the gates closed until the train went past. We could see down

the tracks for about a mile each way and there was no train in sight. We drove to the street car line, then walked to the bank of the Nile, where we got a ferry to take us across to the Island of Rhoda.

While we were waiting for the ferry we saw the natives filling their jugs and pigskins full of water. The carrying of water in these goat-skins is very common in Egypt and Palestine. When they are filled with water they look very funny on a man's back, with the four legs sticking out.

The ferry was merely a raft poled across the river. We had to stand up and if the man who was poling it should happen to bump into you, you would fall into the water.

The first thing we visited on the island was the Nilometer, which was built in the seventh century. It is in the form of a well sixteen feet square, with an octagonal column in the center marked off in Arabic measurements. When the Nile is low it registers seven ells or about twelve feet six inches. When the Nile is high it registers about fifteen ells or twenty-six feet ten inches. When it reaches its height a public announcement is made that the river is high enough for general irrigation. This event is celebrated with great rejoicing.

We went from here through the beautiful garden of the heirs of the Hassan Pasha, to where Moses was supposed to have been found in the bullrushes. Going back across the river, we got into our carriage and drove back to the hotel, thus ending our sightseeing for the day.

The next morning we got up early and started for the pyramids. The drive to the pyramids is beautiful, the road being lined on both sides with acacia trees. We saw the farmers bringing their alfalfa to market, on donkeys and camels. You could hardly see the animals on account of the large loads they had put on them. When we arrived at the end of the drive, which is six miles, we were met by a lot of men and boys who wanted to guide us and give us a camel or a donkey ride to the Sphinx. We walked over because it was only a short distance. We viewed the Sphinx from all sides. It is remarkable the different expressions of the face that you see from looking at it at different angles. We walked all around it and then climbed up on its back. The Sphinx is carved out of one solid piece of limestone, which is sixty-six feet high. There is an altar between the knees but this is covered up with sand. Every now and then they have to dig the sand away from it so it will not be entirely covered up. Just the back and the head are out of the sand now. This Sphinx is often confused with the one in Greece. The way to distinguish between them is to call the Grecian Sphinx, she, because it is supposed to be a female monster; and the Egyptian one, he, because it is supposed to be a male deity. We went from the Sphinx down into the Temple of the Sphinx, which is buried in the sand and has only been recently discovered. It is built of granite and alabaster, and is a good example of the strong architecture of the Egyptians. The temple consists of a number of long, dark passageways and several large

halls. There were nine statues of King Kephren found in it, one being twenty feet tall. There is one block of alabaster in here which is twenty-five feet long and six feet square. They have to keep digging the sand out of here, also, because there is no roof on it. We walked from here over to the Pyramid of Cheops, which is the main one. The pyramid, as it now stands, is four hundred and fifty-one feet high, is seven hundred and fifty feet on each side, and covers about thirteen acres of land. A young girl and I bought tickets to climb up, which cost fifty cents. We had three guides apiece to take us up, one to push and two to pull. The stones are about six feet thick and you need some one to do this. The blocks are worn in some places from the people going up and down. It took us forty minutes to get to the top. From here we could see the fertile valley of the Nile to the east and the barren Sahara desert to the west; we also got a fine view of Cairo in the distance. There were several caravans of camels out on the desert that we could see; they looked like mice crawling along the ground and the people below looked like flies. The guides wanted to carve our names in the stones on the top for a quarter, but we did not let them, because when the stones get full of names they scratch them out. The platform on the top is about thirty feet square and is about as full of names as they can get it. We got a good view of the second and third pyramids from here, also. The second pyramid looks larger than Cheops, but it is built on higher ground. It is four hundred and forty-seven feet high. The casing stones are taken off of this also, all but about fifty feet of them on the top. The third pyramid is still smaller, being only two hundred and four feet high. Nearly all the granite casing stones are left on it. It seemed harder to me to go down than to come up. The first step I took on the descent, I thought I was going to fall all the way down. When we reached the bottom we had to write our names in the Sheik of the Pyramid's book. Every one who goes up has to do this. Grandpa said, when he was there before, he saw one of the Bedouin guides go to the top and down again in eight minutes. When we finished with the Sheik we went over to a little restaurant, which was near the end of the trolley line, and had some lunch. After eating a fine old-fashioned lunch, we went over to the links and played a game of golf at the foot of the pyramids. The course is not a very good one, being composed mostly of sand. The caddie we had could speak English quite fluently. We asked him where he learned it all and he said just from the travelers who came there to play golf. He taught us some Arabic words to say, when anyone came around and bothered us, trying to sell us something. They were, "Mush ans tinshe," which means, "I want nothing; get out." After we went around the course, which was only nine holes, we boarded a street car and went back to the hotel.

We got up early the next morning and prepared to go to Sakkara and the site of ancient Memphis. Our lunch was put up at the

hotel, in what looked like our American bird cages, only they were bigger, being about two feet square. Taking a carriage we drove over to the Nile bridge, where a steamer was waiting to take us up the river to a landing about ten miles from Sakkara. There were a large number of the curious Egyptian sailboats coming down the river, bringing to market the products of the farms. After steaming up the river for four hours in a zigzag course, on account of the sandbars in the river, we came to the landing place. There were about fifty donkey boys waiting for us. When you got off the boat about four would grab hold of you and try to get you to ride on their respective donkeys. When we got about half way to the statue of Rameses II, we had an accident. There were two gentlemen and their wives who had carriages, which were two-wheeled affairs. The two gentlemen rode in one and the two ladies in the other. At a turn they ran into each other, and the horse which the ladies had became frightened and ran away. In going around another turn they all went over the embankment. Fortunately, the embankment was made of loose dirt and the ladies were not hurt very badly. There were two men who led the two carriages. The one who was leading the one with the men in it, started horsewhipping the other one; then there was a bloody battle. When the fight was over we proceeded on our journey. The first thing of interest that we came to was the granite statue of Rameses II. This statue is twenty-five feet long and lays on its back out in the open. It once stood at the entrance of the temple. The workmanship is excellent and it is in a perfect state of preservation. About a block from here is another statue of Rameses I, which is forty-two feet in length and is carved out of limestone. This one is enclosed by a wooden fence and has a platform above it from which you can get a good view of the whole statue at once. Both statues are in a beautiful grove of trees and are both carved out of one solid piece. From here we rode to the Necropolis of Sakkara, which is four miles long and a quarter of a mile wide. It is about seven miles from the statues. The first five miles of the ride was fairly cool, there being a ditch on both sides of the road, but when we got out on the desert sands the heat was terrible. The first place we visited here was the tomb of Mastaba Ti. This tomb was built in honor of Ti, the royal architect, in the fifth dynasty. The walls are covered with hieroglyphics representing Ti in the midst of his poultry, in his shipbuilding yards, in architectural work and numberless other different phases of Egyptian life. The tomb chamber of Ti has scenes of hunting and fishing, pictures of musicians, and of wild and domestic animals. This tomb is buried in the sand.

I got very thirsty; my donkey boy had some oranges so I bought some from him, thinking they would quench my thirst, but the more I ate of them the thirstier I became. While I was riding along over the hot sand the donkey boy asked me for some money to buy the donkey something to eat. He said, "You have had something to

eat, now the donkey wants something." These donkey boys have all kinds of schemes such as this to get money from the travelers. On our way to the Tombs of the Sacred Bulls, one of the ladies found a piece of a human skull in the sand. This being a very appropriate souvenir from the desert, she took it back with her. Here the sacred bull of the god Ptah was mummified and buried with great ceremony. Gradually one gallery after another had been added until it got to be over a thousand feet long. It is ten feet wide and seventeen feet high. This is all cut out of solid rock. In the different recesses along the gallery can be seen the large sarcophagi that the bulls were put in. Each sarcophagus is about thirteen feet long, seven feet wide and eleven feet high. There are twenty-four of these recesses with sarcophagi in them. Some of them are beautifully carved with hieroglyphics, telling the history of the bulls buried in them. From here we started back to the boat, going past the Sten pyramid. This pyramid is one hundred and ninety-six feet high. It consists of six steps, was built in the third dynasty and is one of the oldest monuments in Egypt.

On our way back, another young fellow and I got away from our donkey boys while they were rolling a cigarette and rode for a couple of miles as fast as the donkeys would go. The donkey boys came running after us as fast as they could but could not catch us until we slowed down and waited for them. They did not get mad but took it as a good joke and talked and laughed about it a long time. We rode over the site of ancient Memphis, where it is thought to have been. All that is left here now is a lot of old blocks of granite scattered around. When I got off my donkey to get onto the boat the donkey boy asked me for two dollars for a tip. I gave him fifty cents; then he tried to keep me from getting on the boat. I had a regular tussle with him before I got on. I was so thirsty when I got on that I drank four bottles of pop. We had a very pleasant ride down the river and did not get back to the hotel until nine-thirty.

The next morning we visited the Egyptian Museum. The building cost a million dollars and is in the Graeco-Roman style. In one room are a number of large statues and sarcophagi which are about two thousand years old. The different things of interest that we saw in the museum were: The famous wooden statue from Sakkara, which is called the Village Sheik — the head is round and it has white quartz eyes inset; the statue of King Kherhren, taken from the granite temple by the Sphinx; the statue of Ti, taken from his tomb at Sakkara, and the copper statues of King Pepi I and his sons, which had inset enameled eyes; the black granite Sphinx from Tanis, which has the names of Rameses II and King Merenptal written on the base; the statue of Prince Rahotep and his wife; two very old boats that the ancient Egyptians used to carry their dead to the burial ground in, these were all falling to pieces they were so old, and mummified pieces of animals and birds which were buried with the mum-

mies so that they would have food in the other world. Among these was a squab. On all our side trips where we had to go by rail, and had to take our lunch, we had squabs, so the mummified squab was about all we could stand.

The jewelry and ornaments of the ancient Egyptians, made of gold, are very beautiful. Most of this dates back to 2000 B. C. The best of this jewelry was found with the mummy of Queen Ahotep at Thebes. Among these are a double-hinged bracelet, a dagger and sheath of gold of fine workmanship, and a breast ornament in gold with inlaid stones.

The most interesting of all the things we saw in Egypt were the mummies. Nearly all the mummies were found in a large pit at Thebes, there being about twelve in this room. There is a mummy of Seti I, Rameses II, Rameses III, Merenptah, Merenptah II, Rameses IV, Queen Ahotep, Seti II, Rameses VI, and others. The faces of these men and women are all fairly well preserved, and the hair is still on the heads of nearly all of them, so that is almost like looking at a live person. The skin is just as black as coal and looks like rock.

In the afternoon and evening I sat out on the veranda of the hotel watching the people pass by and also bargained with the different beadsellers. I would ask every one of them who came near me, how much they wanted for their wares, then bargain with them till they got disgusted.

In the afternoon a funeral procession went by. At the head of the procession were the professional mourners, who are paid to walk in front and sing. Next comes the coffin, which is carried by four men on their shoulders. After the coffin march all the men who go to the funeral; then come the wives of the deceased on crude carts drawn by donkeys.

The next evening we went to a confetti carnival at Shepard's hotel. There was one continual shower of confetti all evening. When we went home, all over the garden, which is about a half a block square, there was fully six inches of the confetti. They had a dance in the ball room. Nearly all the higher officers of the English army were there. They looked very funny with their green plaid trousers, short red coats and monocles. The wives of these officers were there also with low-necked gowns and all the jewelry they could possibly get on.

In the afternoon of the next day mother and I drove out to the Gezireh Palace. This was once the palace of the present Khedive's father, but it is now made over into a hotel. The building is magnificent and is situated in the middle of a beautiful park, which is about a half a mile long and a quarter of a mile wide. The park has beautiful drives all through it and is surrounded by a high iron fence. The Nile is a boundary on one side. We had tea on the veranda, which is shaded by a number of large trees. After we finished our tea we were shown all through the building. The main stairway

leading to the second floor is all of white marble inlaid with black marble to make different designs. We were taken into what used to be the Khedive's bed room and sitting room. The walls in these rooms were all draped with red silk. The floors were all covered with beautiful, soft Turkish rugs. There were three big glass chandeliers in the sitting room and two in the bed room. The chairs and furniture were the delicate Louis XV style.

The next afternoon we drove out to Heliopolis, which is about seven miles from Cairo. We passed by the Khedive's palace on our way out, but we could not get near enough to it to get a good view of it on account of the vast expanse of grounds around it. About half way out there we saw the Virgin tree. This is supposed to be the original tree that Mary rested under in her flight into Egypt. There are a couple of wells near by which were salty but were turned fresh when she came there. After a beautiful drive, we finally came to the obelisk of Heliopolis. This is the oldest obelisk in existence, excepting the one at Luxor. It was built by Alsertesen I of the twelfth dynasty, four thousand years ago. It is about fifty feet high and ten feet square at the base, tapering towards the top to about four feet; from here it is cut pyramid shape. On all four sides it is covered with hieroglyphics. It is in a perfect state of preservation at the present time, being as good as when it was erected. There were three others here but they are now in New York, and in Paris, and one is on the Thames embankment.

The next day we left Cairo at noon and arrived in Alexandria at three-thirty in the afternoon. We had lots of time to go around Alexandria, but were not allowed to on account of the white plague.

THE SELLECK SIGNET RING

WILLIAM E. SELLECK'S ACCOUNT OF ITS HISTORY

My father told me the ring had descended to the oldest son of the oldest son for generations; that the Selleck Coat of Arms was engraved on it, and that on his death it descended to me.

If the accompanying record is examined, one has right to assume that (1) David Selleck was the oldest son and brought it from England. His oldest son David died in 1663, and as (3) Jonathan Selleck did not die until 1713 he was the rightful heir to the ring. Since then the record shows plainly that I am the oldest son of the oldest son for 270 years, not including David.

The Coat of Arms is described by Burke under the name of Selly.

In London I called on an expert in Heraldry and asked for information regarding the Coat of Arms. He informed me that it had been recorded over four hundred years ago; that it would be foolish to spend any money in a search through England for any of the ancestors. If he made a search or any investigation, he would finally come down to the statement that the fact of my being in possession of the ring was evidence that I was the oldest male descendant of the branch of the family that recorded the Coat of Arms, and this would be about all the satisfaction I would get.

He said it was not only possible but highly probable that the ancestor who recorded the Coat of Arms was the original owner of the ring, and had it made at the same time he recorded the Coat of Arms, and in entailing the ring to the oldest son it also covered the Coat of Arms.

There was a singular incident connected with my visit to the London specialist. In the early part of the interview all my efforts to learn something were unsuccessful. I prepared to leave his office, but said, "I have consumed some of your time,



THE SELLECK SIGNET RING



THE SELLECK COAT OF ARMS

A question may arise in examining the chevrons, where the perpendicular lines, according to the rules of Heraldry, denote red, while the description given states purple.

If one will refer to *Encyclopædia Britannica*, under head of Tinctures he will find: "Since the sixteenth century a conventional arrangement of lines and dots gives the equivalent of these tinctures in black and white."

This indicates that the ring was engraved before this feature was adopted.

and if you will tell me the expense I will settle." His entire manner changed immediately. He did not urge me to employ him; on the contrary, discouraged it. He said if he made any kind of a search it would cost at least seventy-five dollars—probably more—and, "I can tell you now about all I could probably tell you if I made a search." This he volunteered pleasantly, but would take no fee.

In regard to the name being spelled differently he said it was nearer the rule than the exception in records of over four hundred years. He knew of the town of Selleck in England, and was familiar with the case without reference.

The difference in the manner of the gentleman was so apparent that I could not understand it. When one is familiar with the magnitude of the subject of Heraldry in England, and considers the fact that the Selleck history is not one of great importance, there is ground for surprise when you meet a man that is as familiar with it as he was, and I have since thought that perhaps some one before me had made some inquiries which prompted him to spend some time in looking it up, and after giving the applicant the result of his investigation he received for his trouble a "thank you," and when I applied he at first put me in the same class with my predecessor, but when he found I was not in the "thank you" army he met me very courteously, and gave me the benefit of what he already knew.

In *Founders of New England*, page 4, by S. G. Drake, will be found, "Whoever goes to England expecting to find the genealogy of any particular English family settled in New England at an early day is pretty sure, in at least nine cases out of ten, to meet disappointment."

The ring shows age, and plainly that another ring was worn with it.

All the circumstances connected with the ring and Coat of Arms, together with what I was told by the expert in London, and information derived from others posted in Heraldry and the common custom in England of entailing property to the oldest son, leads me to believe and claim that the Coat of Arms, its

representation on the ring, and the ring itself, were entailed together, and any right or honor connected with it belongs to me personally, the same as any other property entailed, and is not a Selleck family affair.

In furtherance of the position taken the following is presented:

At an early period, when the art of writing was known to very few, it was commonly the custom for men to wear rings on which some distinguishing sign or badge was engraved, so that by using it as a seal the owner could give proof of authenticity to letters or other documents. Thus, when some royal personage wished to delegate his power to one of his officials, it was not unusual for him to hand over his signet ring, by means of which the full royal authority could be given to the written commands of the subordinate. The enlarged part of the ring on which the device is engraved is called the "bezel," the rest of it being the hoop.

Throughout the Middle Ages the signet ring was a thing of great importance in religious, legal, commercial, and private matters.

In the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries signet rings engraved with a badge or trademark were much used by merchants and others; these were not only to form a seal, but the ring itself was often sent by a trusty bearer as the proof of the genuineness of a bill of demand.

The celebrated ring given to Essex by Queen Elizabeth was meant to be used for a similar purpose.—*Encyclopædia Britannica*, "Rings."

From the remotest antiquity the finger ring (usually connected with a seal) was an emblem of an authority which could be delegated by the simple process of delivering it to an agent.—*Appleton's Universal Cyclopædia*, "Rings."

Signet Ring.—A seal ring, the seal of which is a signet or private seal.—*Century Dictionary*.

Signet Ring.—A ring containing a signet or private seal.—*Webster's Dictionary*.

These facts, in connection with the English law of primogeniture seem to further warrant the position that the ring, seal, and coat of arms are the personal property at this date of the writer.

As regards the use of heraldic devices in the U. S., it is to be observed that very few persons know exactly what arms they are entitled to, if any, and that by far the greater number of crests, escutcheons, etc., used on plate, note paper, carriage doors, and the like, have been simply assumed, without authority, either by the present wearer or one of his predecessors. There is no such thing as "the arms of a

family." Arms are borne by an individual, and by his male descendants after him, his oldest son bearing those arms unaltered.— "Heraldry," *The Universal Cyclopædia*. Appleton's v, p. 513

Sir Henry Spelman, recognized as high authority in England on Heraldry, says, "It is not lawful for several persons to bear one and the same arms without a difference; not even to those of the same family, though they may be brothers thereof."

Some time about 1885, at the suggestion of a friend, I wrote as per his directions to Dublin, Ireland, describing the ring and enclosed a wax impression of the seal, and asked if any information could be had regarding it. The answer was brief and read about as follows:

Your signet ring originated in a family named Selly who lived in Cornwall.

The letter was signed, "Burke Ulster."

In Papworth's *British Armorial*, page 541, will be found, "Ermine, two chevrons, purple, Sr. John Selly."

In *Dictionary of Heraldry* by William Berry, Registering clerk to the College of Arms, London, Glover's Ordinary of Arms, will be found, "Ermine 2 Chevrons, purple. Selly."

If the history of Jonathan Selleck (3) has not been read, one will find on page 22 an interesting item connected with the ring, relating to his will.

According to the strict customs and laws in England relating to Heraldry and primo-geniture, there seems to be conclusive evidence that the exclusive right to use the seal or Coat of Arms shown, exists with William E. Selleck and his oldest male descendants; but it does not follow that it is best in all instances to follow strictly in the footsteps of our ancestors, and with this in view there is no objection to any Selleck, who is a direct descendant of David Selleck, using the Coat of Arms, as long as it is not used in connection with a ring, with the understanding that it is a courtesy extended by the rightful owner.

PECK GENEALOGY

PECK GENEALOGY

LINE OF DESCENT

- | | | |
|--|--|----------|
| | | CHILDREN |
| (1) William Peck | (3) <i>Jeremiah</i> , b. 1623 in England, d. Jan. 7, 1699. | |
| (2) Elizabeth. Married 1622. | John, b. 1638, d. 1724. | |
| | Joseph, b. Jan., 1641, d. N v. 25, 1718. | |
| | Elizabeth, b. April, 1643. | |
| (3) Jeremiah Peck | (5) <i>Samuel</i> , b. Jan. 18, 1659, d. April 28, 1746. | |
| (4) <i>Johannah Kitchell</i> . Married Nov. 12, 1656. | Ruth, b. April 3, 1661. | |
| | Caleb, b. 1663, d. March 10, 1725. | |
| | Anne, b. 1665, d. May 23, 1718. | |
| | Jeremiah, b. 1667, d. 1752. | |
| | Joshua, b. 1673, d. Feb. 14, 1736. | |
| (5) Samuel Peck | Samuel, b. March, 1688, d. Dec., 1733. | |
| (6) <i>Ruth Ferris</i> , Married Nov. 27, 1686. | (7) <i>Jeremiah</i> , b. Dec. 29, 1690, d. 1765. | |
| | Joseph, b. May 1, 1692, d. 1761. | |
| | David, b. Dec. 15, 1694, d. 1756. | |
| | Nathaniel, b. Aug. 15, 1697, d. 1765. | |
| | Eliphalet, b. 1699, d. 1770. | |
| | Theophilus, b. March, 1702, d. Nov. 7, 1783. | |
| | Peter, b. 1704, d. 1759. | |
| | Robert, b. 1706, d. 1749. | |
| (7) Jeremiah Peck | Mary, d. 1763. | |
| (8) <i>Mary Johnson</i> . | Jeremiah, d. 1803. | |
| | Joseph, b. 1730, d. Dec. 4, 1822. | |
| | Henry, d. 1764. | |
| | Hannah, d. 1797. | |
| | Ruth. | |
| | Anna, d. 1807. | |
| | William, b. Aug. 24, 1741, d. Dec. 23, 1800. | |
| | Martha. | |
| (9) Isaac Peck | (9) <i>Isaac</i> , b. Oct. 10, 1745, d. Aug. 15, 1827. | |
| (10) <i>Elizabeth Foreman</i> . Born Apr. 15, 1757. Married Dec. 16, 1784. Died Aug. 29, 1844. | Rachael, b. 1747, d. Feb. 8, 1806. | |
| | Catharine, b. 1749, d. June, 1825. | |
| | Thomas, b. Sept. 1, 1750, d. 1781. | |
| | Sands, F., b. Dec. 7, 1785, d. Aug. 15, 1826. | |
| | Isaac, b. July 19, 1787, d. 1865. | |
| | (11) <i>Deborah</i> , b. Sept. 29, 1789, d. Nov. 12, 1877. | |
| | Stephen, b. Nov. 4, 1792, d. Dec. 13, 1820. | |

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|---|---|
| (12) Benjamin Selleck | (13) <i>Sands Edwin</i> , b. March 18, 1812,
d. Aug. 21, 1865. |
| (11) Deborah Peck
Married Feb. 28, 1811. | Stephen Peck, b. June 24, 1814,
d. Jan. 25, 1870. |
| (13) Sands E. Selleck | (15) <i>William Edwin</i> , b. Feb. 18, 1841. |
| (14) <i>Eliza Ayres</i> . B. March 24, 1811,
d. Nov. 7, 1858. Married
Jan. 8, 1839. | |
| (15) William E. Selleck | (17) <i>June Montross</i> , b. May 5, 1867. |
| (16) <i>Flora Thorne</i> . Married Feb. 14,
1866. | |
| (17) June M. Selleck | (19) <i>William Dayton</i> , b. Dec. 13, 1892. |
| (18) <i>Lizzie Patterson</i> . Married March
17, 1891. | Dorothy Marie, b. Oct. 23, 1894,
d. Aug. 7, 1895. |

(1) WILLIAM PECK

BORN 1601, DIED OCT. 4, 1694

Was one of the founders of the New Haven Colony in 1638. With his wife Elizabeth and his son Jeremiah he emigrated from England and arrived in Boston, June 26, 1637, on the "Hector."

He with others had suffered much from the intolerance and persecution of Archbishop Laud during the reign of Charles I, and the object of their emigration was the unmolested enjoyment of civil and religious liberty.

His autograph signature is affixed to the fundamental agreement or Constitution dated June 4, 1639, for the government of the infant colony.

This is said to have been one of "the first examples in history of a written Constitution organizing a government and defining its powers."

He is usually named in the records with the title of "Mr.," then a prefix of respect and distinction.

He was admitted a freeman of the Colony, Oct. 20, 1640. Was a merchant by occupation, and a trustee, treasurer, and the general business agent of the Colony Collegiate School. Was a deacon of the church in New Haven until he died. His wife, Elizabeth, died Dec. 5, 1683, and he subsequently married Sarah, widow of William Holt but his four children were by his

first wife. He died Oct. 4, 1694. All of his children, together with his second wife, survived him, and are named in his will, which was dated March 9, 1689. Was left for probate Oct. 11, 1694, and is recorded in Probate Records of New Haven, book ii, page 176.

His home lot of about an acre, and his dwelling house and place of business in New Haven, Connecticut, were at the time of his decease on the southeasterly side of and fronting on Church street; the lot extending from Centre Street northerly in front on Church Street towards Chapel Street about one hundred feet, and extended easterly from Church Street a few feet beyond Orange Street. The front on Church street is now covered (1877) by the Connecticut Savings Bank building on the corner of Church and Centre streets, the "Clark" building, so called, and the Odeon.

His grave is in that part of the old burial ground now under the Centre Church in New Haven. His grave stone, however, is in the new cemetery in the northern part of the town, having been removed there in 1821.

National Cyclopædia American Biography, Vol. iii, p. 251.
Rocky History of New Haven County, Vol. i, p. 11.
Darius Peck's Peck Genealogy, p. 7.

(3) REV. JEREMIAH PECK

Little is known of his early life, except that he had a good education, acquired in part in England.

He preached and taught school at Guilford, Connecticut; about 1660 he took charge of the Collegiate School at New Haven, a colony school instituted by the General Court in 1659. It was open to students from other colonies, and in it were to be taught Latin, Greek, and Hebrew, and young men fitted for college. The school was temporarily suspended in 1661 for want of adequate support. In 1661 he preached at Saybrook, Connecticut. There was some dissatisfaction or misunderstanding with his congregation, but it was amiably arranged,

and he left Saybrook. He returned to Guilford, then went to New Jersey, and in 1676 came to Greenwich, Connecticut; later preached in Waterbury in 1690, where he continued his duties until he died, June 7, 1699.

In 1672 he became one of the twenty-seven proprietors of Common Lands.

The first salary paid him at Greenwich for preaching was £50 per year with fire-wood, or £60 without. He chose the latter.

May 1693 This Court grant to Rev. Jeremiah Peck 200 acres of land for a farm, provided he take it up where it may not be prejudicial to any former grant or plantation.

Darius Peck's Peck Genealogy, p. 9.

Mead's History of Greenwich, Connecticut, pp. 68, 297.

Public Records of the Colony of Connecticut, Vol. iv, p. 96.

(5) SAMUEL PECK

Was well educated, was a man of large wealth and influence; for about fifty years was a Justice of the Peace, and held other important positions in Greenwich, Connecticut.

Oct. 1696 Samuel Peck of Greenwich being chosen Lieut of the train band in the town of Greenwich this court approves and confirms

Oct. 1720 Assembly do establish and confirm Samuel Peck to be Captain of the east Company or train band in the town of Greenwich, and that he be commissioned accordingly.

He and his wife are buried in the graveyard of Old Greenwich. In 1857 the head-stones were still standing and read:

Here lies the Body of Mrs Ruth Peck wife of Samll Peck Esq. who died Sep y^e 17th 1745 about 83 years of Age.

Here lies the Body of Samuel Peck Esq. who died April y^e 28 A. D. 1746 Aged 90 years.

Oct 1700 In case the government of Newyorke shall desire the line between their Province and this Colony to be renewed by persons appointed by both Governments, this assembly doth appoint and empower Capt Jonathan Selleck, Lieut Samuel Peck (and one other) to join with those appointed by the governm^t of Newyorke in running said line and erecting bound marks (see page 24).

I know all men By this receipt of James Palmer
 Inhabitant of ye Town of Greenwich in his mayesties
 Name of President haveing do hereby for a valuable
 Satisfaction to mee Sealed from mee my Heires
 & assigns executors & administrators for ever my present
 home sold with ye fences & fence weges there on or adjoining
 unto Saml Peck of ye same place to him his Heires
 his Heires & assigns for ever hereby bearing & lett him
 all former bargain sales taxes sales or conveyances what
 ever made had or done before ye Date of ye Deale here
 of hereby giving & lett Saml or his Heires & people
 possession hereby engaging this my Deale of Sale to
 be good & true & lett Saml Peck good & satisfied
 according to its quantity & bound as Recd from ye
 to see myn is witness my hand in Greenwich
 the 10th of March 1711
 James Palmer
 mark
 Tho: Hartford
 of Middlesex County
 This Deale of Sale is acknowledged
 by the said James Palmer
 in presence of
 John & Thomas
 This Bill of Sale is acknowledged
 in Page 181 of Saml Peck
 Record

DEED TO SAMUEL PECK
 See Page 69

The writer lately obtained possession of over forty old deeds, bonds and recorded papers, dating from 1696 to 1795, all relating to the Peck family. Nineteen different Peck names appear, all of which form a part of the list given herewith. They show their age and have to be handled tenderly. Most of them show acknowledgment before Samuel Peck, Justice of the Peace.

The history connected with this is interesting. The will of Deborah Selleck provided that all her personal property should be sold at auction. In a cruise to South America in 1911 (the first), the writer had as a fellow passenger, John A. Wendle of Stamford, Connecticut, who stated he was present at the auction and purchased an old trunk; it developed that it contained these forty old deeds. His offer to send them to me was accepted, which he did over thirty years after the auction.

The oldest is dated July, 1696 (the day is obliterated), and is the deed to Samuel Peck from James Palmer of his home lot. The deed is in the handwriting of Samuel Peck, undoubtedly signed in body of deed by mistake and signature erased.

Was one of the "Twenty-seven Proprietors of Land" in 1627. December, 1735, was one of the Committee of Safety and Inspection.

At town meeting, Nov. 9, 1691, considered for the first time the necessity for a church and appointed Samuel Peck and five others as building committee.

Mead's History of Greenwich, Connecticut, pp. 112, 297.

Public Records of the Colony of Connecticut, Vol. iv, p. 181. Vol. vi, p. 212.

Ye History of Greenwich, Connecticut, by S. P. Mead.

(10) ELIZABETH FOREMAN

The writer remembers seeing her. He accompanied his mother to Connecticut on account of his health, and she was there.

The only thing remembered of her was the statement that after being blind for some time, she had her second eyesight, and read a number of chapters of the Bible without glasses.

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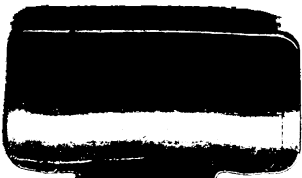
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